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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Zoning battle: The Canton planning commission paves the way for a Farmer Jack supermarket at Canton Center and Cherry Hill, despite opposition from area residents. /A2

Shipwrecked: This resident was into sea disasters long before the current "Titanic" craze. /A3

ENTERTAINMENT

Film: Gordon Michaels, a graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland, is a lot like the lead character he plays in the film "Unbeatable Harold"—determined to bring the story to the big screen. /E1

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Rains dampen basements, close area roads

BY TEDD SCHNEIDER
STAFF WRITER

Canton got drenched Tuesday and many residents will likely spend the balance of the week with mop and towels in hand.

The heavy, all-day rains — unusual for February — caused flooding problems in creeks, some basements and over roadways, Canton officials said.

"We got hit pretty hard. It's pretty uniform throughout the area," Canton Engineer Tom Casari said.

Casari reported 2½ inches of rainfall by 9 p.m. Tuesday night at two measuring stations, the DPW building on Sheldon, south of Michigan Avenue and the Western Townships Utility Authority on Joy, near Haggerty.

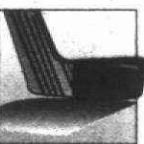
Casari said Fellows Creek was at unprecedented levels Tuesday evening but the water began to recede by Wednesday morning.

Crews were on notice Wednesday to handle flooding problems caused by additional rainfall expected throughout the day, Casari said.

Meanwhile, a Canton Township woman reported being stranded for 90 minutes Tuesday night when her car stalled out going through a flooded intersection in Romulus. "We had water coming in up to the gearshift and every time a truck passed

Please see FLOODING, A13

Ice and more: Complex unveiled



Canton will be home to one of the premier sports and recreation parks in southeastern Michigan, if all goes according to plans announced Tuesday. A public-private partnership will build the complex on Haggerty Road.

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Canton wanted an ice arena. What it will get instead is the mother of all sports parks, according to plans unveiled Tuesday by Southfield-based Griffin Properties.

The \$20-\$25 million sports complex will have at least five buildings in a

"village atmosphere," including a two-sheet ice arena, a seven-court basketball facility, indoor soccer complex, a two-tier, 40-stall golf facility and a restaurant.

"The plan has been not to have liquor on any of the sites, but we've been approached by a number of nationally-known restaurants like the Hard Rock

Cafe, Planet Hollywood and Rainforest Cafe," said Scott Griffin, president of Griffin Properties.

However, Griffin said attempts are being made to draw a sports-oriented concept restaurant, such as ESPN Cafe or All Star Cafe, owned by Shaquille O'Neal, Steffi Graf and other sports personalities.

Agreement

Township officials have tentatively agreed to sell 20 acres on the east side of Haggerty Road, between Michigan and Palmer, to Griffin Properties for \$2.1 million. The developer will get

credit towards the sale price for property used to build the ice arena. (Approximately five acres at \$109,856 per acre).

"It's a showcase facility. Very, very high-tech," Griffin said.

At least three facility operators will be involved, although the theme sports park will be managed similar to a condominium with each responsible for their own maintenance. A common management will take care of landscaping, snow removal and other shared elements.

"Because of the operators' contract

Please see SPORTS COMPLEX, A13



STAFF PHOTOS BY JERRY MENDOZA

Life saver: Paramedic Dave Bowman of Huron Valley Ambulance is equipped with heart paddles used to revive cardiac patients.

ER ON WHEELS

Emergency care: HVA vs. firefighters



EMS run: Canton Fire Sgt. Rick Paulun is behind the wheel of an emergency rescue vehicle en route to a 911 call.

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

If you were having a heart attack today in greater Plymouth or Canton, firefighters would arrive on the scene within three to six minutes and begin CPR.

They could use semi-automatic defibrillators for electrical shock to restore a patient's heartbeat. They also are equipped with oxygen.

Licensed as Basic Life Support (BLS) agencies, the firefighters are EMTs and are limited as to what emergency procedures they can perform. They can't intubate patients, start IVs, or administer drugs.

What happens in the next few minutes differs for the Plymouth Community Fire Department and Canton Fire Department.

In greater Plymouth, paramedics from Huron Valley Ambulance (HVA) respond to the scene three to four

minutes later armed with a drug box and can begin administering a number of emergency medications. They also are proficient in monitoring heart rhythms and providing more advanced respiratory support.

As an Advanced Life Support (ALS) agency, the HVA paramedics begin performing the lifesaving procedures that Plymouth firefighters cannot.

The HVA paramedics transport the patient to the nearest hospital for additional care. The ambulance is also equipped to continue the care in transit.

Please see PARAMEDICS, A10



• See related 911 stories on page A10

• See related editorial on page A14

Teacher contract talks center on district finances

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton teachers will seek a pay raise equal to the rate of inflation.

However, the real battle may come down to whether the district can afford it.

"We'll be looking for an increase in the range of 2.5 percent," said Tom Cotner, chief negotiator for the Plymouth-Canton Education Association. "We're aware of the district's financial plight, and it's not terrific. However, I'm not sure it will go bankrupt in a

few years like they project."

The two sides, according to the contract, must begin bargaining by April 15. However, some positioning has already begun.

"I've already met informally with their chief negotiator, Errol Goldman," said Cotner. "We gave them some of our concerns and they gave us some of their issues."

The school board began its homework Wednesday night, holding a spe-

cial executive session to discuss upcoming negotiations.

"We have a lot to talk about," said Superintendent Dr. Charles Little. "There's no question we don't have enough money to make things work. However, I do sense there's a positive atmosphere with the teachers' union."

Charles Portelli, PCEA president, said he's hopeful of a contract longer than two years.

"We would certainly like to see that,"

said Portelli. "The district, in its long-range plan, even anticipates a three-year pact. I think the final determination will depend on the climate of the talks."

The climate could become a bit chilly. Portelli said there are still some bad feelings after the last contract was settled, when teachers were forced to begin co-paying for traditional Blue Cross medical coverage if they didn't opt to join alternative plans. Portelli said that has cost some members up to \$80 a month.

Please see CONTRACT TALKS, A12

PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOLS

Opponents fail to halt supermarket project

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Long faces described the exiting crowd of residents who attempted Monday to block a possible Farmer Jack supermarket at Canton Center Road and Cherry Hill.

In the end, property owner's rights superseded the public opinion of those owning the affected land around the proposed development.

The 2½-hour public hearing before the planning commission drew criticism from those living in neighboring Kingston Estates Condominiums. It also drew objection from those living more than a mile down the road.

"The traffic is so bad right now, my children are no longer allowed to cross Canton Center to go to Heritage Park," said Guy Querullo of Gleggery Village, across from Canton's administrative offices and the 100-acre park.

Originally, the planning commission denied a rezoning in January that would have been the first step in allowing the 24,000-square-foot grocery store.

On Monday, the rezoning was approved by a 5-1 vote. During the past month, planning commissioners were summoned to Canton Township administrative offices to speak with township

'I still believe in government for the people and by the people.'

Cathy Johnson,
commissioner against rezoning

attorneys.

"They said we'd be in for one hell of a lawsuit," said commissioner Cathy Johnson. Johnson voted against the rezoning approval from single family residential, R-3, to community commercial, C-2.

"I believe in the public hearing process. I've also listened to the township attorneys. I still believe in government for the people and by the people," she said.

Of those voting in favor of the rezoning, Commissioner Ron Lieberman said the rezoning doesn't allow for the construction of the large grocery store. Developers will have to return before the planning commission for a special land use approval, allowing for buildings over 40,000 square feet.

"We will be looking at this project very closely," he said.

The rezoning of the two acres on Cherry Hill would be combined with four other acres fronting Canton Center, giving developers enough property to build the store and another

9,000-square-foot strip mall. The 4-acre site is already zoned commercial.

The property surrounds the Amoco gas station on the southeast corner of the intersection.

Attorney Bryan Amann said the project does "not negatively impact, but rather improves traffic conditions."

Residents have been waiting three years for Wayne County to widen Canton Center Road to five lanes, from Ford to just south of Cherry Hill. The county has claimed the project will begin this spring. Residents said they won't believe it until construction crews arrive.

Amann said he has talked to Alan Richardson at the Wayne County Road Department. A June construction date is planned. "They would lose federal funds if the project is not started this year," he said.

Developers have been required by the county to make an additional \$115,000 worth of improvements, Amann said. With the revisions, the county would extend five lanes on Canton Center another 270 feet, with 150 feet of new road tapering to two lanes. Cherry Hill also will have five lanes for an additional 420 feet, east of the Canton Center intersection, with 300 feet of tapering on the west side and 200 feet on the east side.



First step: Planning commissioners voted 5-1 in favor of the rezoning at Canton Center and Cherry Hill Roads. The commission still needs to grant a special land use approval and the township board has to approve the project before a proposed Farmer Jack supermarket could be built.

Animal control change OK'd by board

The Canton Board of Trustees

has approved a contract with Dean's Wild Animal Control to provide for the removing of nuisance animals which are in violation of the ordinances of the township and/or pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of township residents.

The Westland company replaces Critter Control, which provided service to Canton for a number of years. Residents with animal control issues should contact the Canton Public Safety Department, 397-3000.

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NEWSPAPERS

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Buried treasure

Canton diver delves into history of Great Lakes shipwrecks

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Canton diver and marine history expert David Trotter said he knelt on the deck of the shipwrecked Frederick A. Lee to see what it would have been like to crew the 70-foot tugboat.

The hull of the tug site upright on the floor of Lake Huron - the same way it would have looked as it steamed across the Great Lake prior to its fateful voyage of 1936.

"I call her the mystery of the 13ths because she sank on Friday the 13th. She was also launched on the 13th (1896) and sank 13 miles off shore," Trotter said.

The Fred Lee and its five-man crew were returning to Sault Ste. Marie to dock the tugboat for the winter when it abruptly sank. Legend claimed an explosion took the tugboat to its underwater grave, some 200 feet to lake bottom.

That's where it sat until Trotter discovered it in 1994. It had been on his list of "finds" since the early 1980s.

"She went down very quickly, like the Edmund Fitzgerald, but it wasn't because of an explosion," said Trotter.

The tugboat is completely intact with no damage to the cabin or hull. In fact, several pieces of glass remain in the cabin area, he said. The discov-

■ The discovery of the Fred Lee will be one program presented by Trotter during the Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival at the Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn beginning at noon Saturday.

ery put to rest the 60-year-old myth of what caused it to sink.

"The Fred Lee was taking in water and didn't know it," he said. "She was on heavy seas. She'd take in water, then pop up, then go back under the waves until she was never seen again."

The discovery of the Fred Lee will be one program presented by Trotter during the Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival at the Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn beginning at noon Saturday. He also will present a second program, "A Voyage to Discovery," which will be an overview of better known Great Lakes shipwrecks. The Dearborn Holiday Inn also will be hosting researchers and artifacts throughout the day.

Trotter has been consumed with the discovery and exploration of shipwrecks in the Great Lakes since the late 1970s - long before the blockbuster movie, "Titanic," piqued interest in the subject.

To date he has claimed discovery of 60 to 70 virgin shipwrecks in the Great Lakes. He predicted over 200 have yet to be found.

His preoccupation is evident in the name of his 32-foot marquette, called "Obsession." The boat is docked in Harbor Beach.

"That's where I'll be in early April when people are cleaning off their golf clubs," he said. Trotter recently retired from Ford Motor Credit. First enthralled in scuba diving as a sport, he equipped his boat with a site scan sonar in the early 1980s. Underwater photographic equipment helps delve into the history of the Great Lakes, which he refers to as "a reservoir of marine history."

The Fred Lee was explored extensively last summer by Trotter's team of divers and shipwreck experts. Typically, four to eight people comprise a team.

With so many "finds" to his credit, Trotter describes the most exciting shipwreck as "the next one."

"It's an all-the-adrenaline-pumping type of experience. Definitely, a unique experience for someone of modest means."



Tool of his trade: David Trotter demonstrates an underwater strobe light that he uses to explore shipwrecks like that of the Fred Lee.

Vocal music scholarships offered

The Plymouth Community Chorus, as part of its continuing music education program, is again offering three vocal scholarships to students pursuing an education in the performing arts: one \$800 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior, and two \$400 scholarships to students in high school and

junior high school (6th through 11th grades).

The scholarship program was established in 1984 for the purpose of assisting worthy and promising students in the pursuit of a career in the field of vocal music, and applied vocational career in the field of vocal music, the academic study of

voice, or the study of voice as relating to recreational and community singing.

For application or further information, please call (313) 533-4796. Applications must be postmarked by March 1.

CANTON CONNECTION

Must see TV

Too busy during the week to catch up on what's going on in the Canton community?

Now you can find out on the weekend, by watching local access show on Canton Community Television (CCTV).

The programming schedule for three locally produced shows has been expanded to Saturday and Sunday. "Canton This Month," "Canton Contact" and "Pheasant Run Digest" are now cablecast seven days a week.

The weekend schedule is as follows: "Canton This Month" news magazine, at 7 p.m.; "Canton Contact" talk show, 7:30 p.m.; and "Pheasant Run Digest," which offers golf tips and other information about local courses, 8 p.m.

The regular Board of Trustees meetings and planning commission meetings will air on Saturday and Sunday in the near future, according to a prepared statement by township officials. They currently air Monday through Friday on alternate nights beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Canton Community Television programs can be found on Channel 12 (MediaOne) and Channel 10 (America's). Besides the taped programs, CCTV also provides a community bulletin board.

In the near future the government channel will begin rebroadcasts of its programs during both a morning time slot and a late afternoon time slot to give viewers with different schedules a chance to watch the shows, the statement said.

New shows likely to begin airing in 1998

include a program for the Summit on the Park community center, a Public Safety Department show featuring information about police and fire issues in the community, and possibly a program for children.

Renovations to the Board of Trustees meeting room to enhance the quality of the videotapes are also nearing completion and residents can look forward to a dramatically improved look to the tapings of important board and planning commission meetings.

He's a winner

Stephen Goto of Canton took first place in the Plymouth Symphony's recent annual Youth Artist Competition.

Five young people tried out for the contest, which was open to all students from Plymouth Canton, Plymouth Salem, Belleville, Northville and Novi high schools.

Goto's violin solo was awarded first place.

The Plymouth Canton High School senior, has been playing violin for 11 years. He attended Interlochen through the All-State program and was the second violin section leader in the Intermediate Orchestra for both of the summers of 1993 and 1995. He received first place in the Demaris Arts Competitions in the years 1992-1994, and in the Schoolcraft College Honors Auditions for 1993 and 1994.



Did you know?

■ Friday is "Hoodie-Hoo Day." A noon, people are urged to go outdoors and yell "Hoodie-Hoo" to chase away winter and get ready for spring.

■ Tuesday, Feb. 24 is Paczki Day? Also known as Fat Tuesday, the day before Lenten begins is the occasion for baking and selling the delicious pastry known as paczki, a distant cousin of the jelly doughnut.

■ Seventy-two national Olympic committees are participating in the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, along with approximately 3,000 athletes and officials?

New fiction
Here are some new books available from the library:
■ "Rogue Warrior: Seal Force Alpha" - Marinko
■ "Men of Brewster Place" - Naylor
■ "Sudden Mischievous" - Parker
■ "Pandora" - Rice

■ "Homeport" - Roberts
■ "Guilty Pleasures" - Sanders

Web Watch
Check out these new Web sites:

■ <http://www.historytravel.com>
■ <http://www.ericnuzum.com/banned>
■ <http://www.physlink.com>
■ <http://www.coffeereview.com>
■ <http://www.pottotheday.com>

Q & A

Q: Does Michigan have a "state soil"?

A: Soil is a vital natural resource. First identified as a soil type in 1927, Kalkaska sand is one of more than 500 soils found in the state. Unique to Michigan, Kalkaska sand covers nearly a million acres in 29 Upper and Lower Peninsula counties. Designated as the state soil by Public Act 302 of 1990, Kalkaska sand has distinctive layers ranging in color from black to yellowish brown.

The source for this information is Michigan Historical Center-Michigan History Magazine.

Multi-media
Here are some new CD-Roms for kids available from the library:
■ "The Smelly Mystery: Star-

ring Mercer Mayer's Little Monster"

■ "The Great Reading Adventure"

■ "Where in Time is Carmen Sandiego?"

■ "Strategy Challenges"

For your listening pleasure

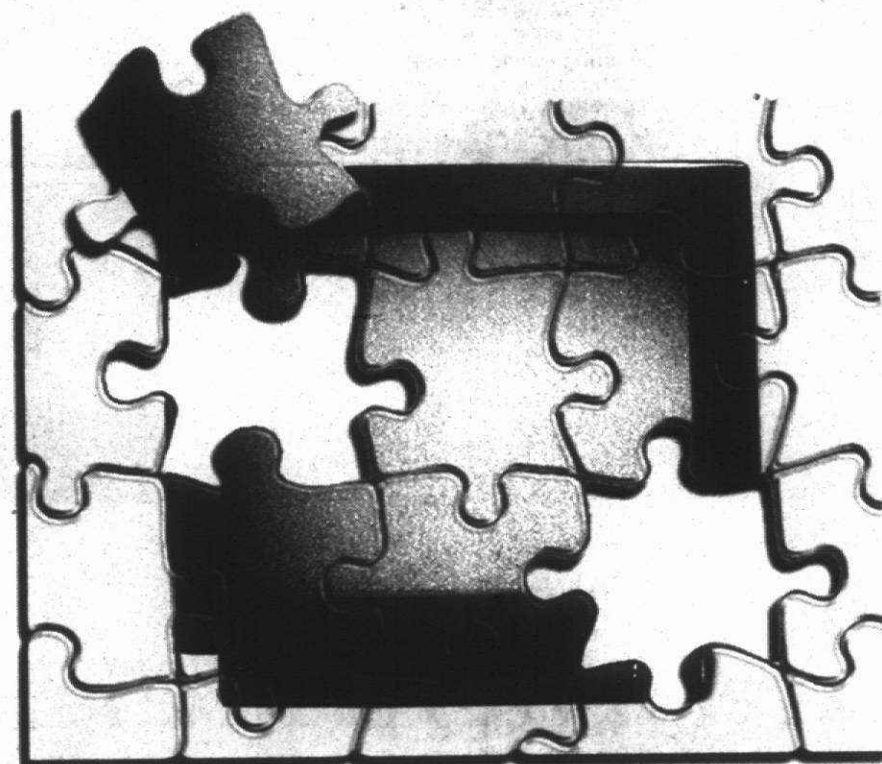
Here are some new talking books available from the library:
■ "Underboss" - Maas
■ "Success is a Choice" - Pitino
■ "Shades of Blue and Gray" - Hattaway

Hot topic of the week

■ What are those funny little creatures you see all over Nagano? Snowlets! To convey to the world an image that is unified and consistent with the Vision for the 1998 Nagano Olympic Winter Games, NAOG chose to develop the emblem, mascots and other Olympic marks under an integrated strategy. The mascots, collectively called Snowlets, were subsequently approved at the IOC Executive Board meeting on June 21, 1993 and were unveiled to the public on Sept. 17, 1993.

■ The Canton Library is compiled by Laura Dorog of the library staff. The library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Road. For more information about library programs and services call 397-0999.

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Victim hospitalized, 2 charged in robbery

BY KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Adele Gray could never have expected to spend Valentine's Day like this.

It was almost 1:30 p.m. Feb. 12 when she went into Kmart on Ann Arbor Road to buy a lock, a Valentine's Day present for herself.

But as she walked back to her car, Gray, 68, had her purse stolen. Inside was her new lock and \$100.

In the struggle to keep the purse, the Plymouth Township woman fell and broke her hip, and was admitted to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Arrested early Monday and charged with unarmed robbery in the incident were Brian E.

Jackson, 18, and Michael E. Smith, 21. Both men are from Canton.

The two appeared before 35th District Court Judge John MacDonald on Tuesday. MacDonald set bond for the two at \$100,000 each, after police Detective David Hayes told MacDonald that Jackson has ties to other states, and that both suspects are unemployed.

Gray's daughter, Cindy Gray, also addressed the judge. "She is an old woman. She has a weak heart. We request the highest bond possible," Gray said.

After setting the bond at \$100,000, MacDonald did not reduce the amount to be posted by 10 percent, as is typical.

"Does that satisfy you, Mrs. Gray?" he asked. "Yes, your

honor," she said. Taken in the robbery were the lock and \$100 in the purse. Police said the suspects are believed responsible for other purse snatchings in the Farmington area on Saturday.

Farmington police were given a witness description of the robbery suspects' car as a green Escort. At 12:45 a.m. Monday, Plymouth Township police spotted a car matching the description, with two men inside matching the witness description of the robbers, police said.

The two were arrested at the Quick Pick party store at Lilley and Ann Arbor roads after the traffic stop by patrol Officer Steve Cheston.

Police said a Michigan State Police sketch artist was called to

Adele Gray's bedside. From her description, he drew a sketch that nearly matches one of the suspects, police said.

Police said that upon interviewing the two men they admitted they used money taken in the purse snatchings to buy drugs, and hocked stolen valuables.

The charge of unarmed robbery is punishable by up to 15 years in jail.

On Sunday, Adele Gray had an operation to replace part of her hip. "She's very relieved they've been arrested. I think she'll sleep a lot better tonight," daughter Cindy said Monday.

Her mother was expected to be remain in the hospital until the weekend. She then must go to an assisted living facility for one to

two months, for therapy to allow her to walk again, Cindy Gray said.

"I can't begin to express my anger. I fear for a lot of elderly people," she said. Gray said she returned to Kmart last weekend, as reports on the robbery aired on Detroit TV stations.

"You should see the women clutching their purses. It's an aura of fear," she said.

"We're going to pursue this to the max. There needs to be an impetus about people protecting themselves on the streets."

"They have red ribbons for AIDS and pink ribbons for breast cancer, maybe we need a silver ribbon to honor the elderly. I'm mad," Gray said.

She praised Hayes and Sgt. Jim Jarvis for visiting her mother at the hospital over the weekend, on their days off work.

Jarvis said that in interviewing the suspects, they told police they had been waiting outside Kmart for a while and were ready to leave, when they spotted Gray exiting the store.

"They drove around to where she was walking. The passenger reached out of the window and grabbed her purse; it had a shoulder strap," Jarvis said.

Adele Gray was a longtime employee of Bartell's Florist on Plymouth Road in Livonia.

To comment via e-mail: tschneider@e.homecomm.net. If your comments are intended for publication, please include your name and telephone number.

Father-daughter bonding



Light on her feet: Randy Pardikes of Canton takes daughter Holin, 4, for a spin around the dance floor Friday at the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance at St. Thomas A'Becket Church in Canton. The church hosts the dance each year in conjunction with Valentine's Day.

JERRY MENDOZA

County, firm resolve fish kill violations

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Wayne County has agreed to pay for the restocking of fish at Newburgh Lake and a downstream impoundment on the Rouge River, while a project manager will give \$3,000 to Friends of the Rouge.

And, if another fish kill extends downstream again, beyond the state's approved area, it will mean a \$10,000 fine for the project manager.

It's all part of an administrative consent order and a settlement of violations stemming from a fish eradication in June 1997 that went awry in Newburgh Lake and killed thousands of fish downstream at the Nankin impoundment.

The order is expected to be approved today (Thursday) by Wayne County commissioners.

Under the order, Wayne County will complete the restocking of the Rouge, valued at \$25,000, within 30 days

of completion of the Newburgh Lake restoration project. By Oct. 1, 2000, Wayne County must submit to the state's chief of the surface water quality division a report on the fish restocking.

Environmental Consulting & Technology of Detroit, the project manager and environmental consulting firm hired for the Newburgh Lake restoration project, will pay \$3,000 to Friends of the Rouge, a nonprofit group overseeing Rouge cleanups and helping in the river's restoration and public education.

If another "overkill" occurs, EC&T would be responsible for penalties associated with permit violations on this project. That would equal a \$10,000 fine, according to the order entered between the state and Wayne County.

The consent order was proposed by the state Department

NEWBURGH LAKE

of Environmental Quality and negotiated by all the parties.

Last June contractors hired by EC&T applied rotenone — a natural pesticide — to kill fish in Newburgh Lake, many of which were contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyl.

It was the first of two planned fish kills in a restoration of the lake. The second is scheduled for this summer. The public does not face any dangers from this application, as it is only fatal to fish and other small amphibians at the concentration levels used in the river.

The rotenone was to be neutralized, but that operation failed to completely oxidize the chemical. As a result, thousands of fish were killed, and the kill extended downstream six miles in the Rouge River, including the Nankin impoundment.

That application violated

state law and the permit. Wayne County was the holder of that permit from the state Department of Environmental Quality.

"It is Wayne County's position that as project manager, Environmental Consulting and Technology must bear responsibility for its contractor's actions in accomplishing the fish kill," said Jim Murray, director of Wayne County Department of Environment, in a letter to commissioners.

The order was approved last Tuesday by the commission's Committee on Environment, Drains and Sewers.

Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, sits on that committee. "The order sets a liability for the project," McCotter said. "None of us were happy with it, but it's just one of those things."

Wayne County could have spent \$30,000 in legal fees to pursue the matter, McCotter said.

County will restock fish in Nankin impoundment

Wayne County has agreed to restock fish in Newburgh Lake and the Nankin impoundment on the Rouge River. The restocking will be coordinated with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, fisheries division.

The lake will be restocked with several species of fingerlings, which are small fish less than a year old.

The following species will be restocked in Newburgh Lake at the following levels:

/n Fathead minnows: 50 gallons, yearly for two years;
/n Bluegills: 20,000 fingerlings;
/n Largemouth bass: 4,000 fingerlings, yearly for two years;
/n Channel catfish: 3,000 8-inch fingerlings, yearly for three years;
/n Walleye: 5,000 spring fingerlings (or 1,000 fall fingerlings);
/n Northern pike: 2,000 fingerlings, yearly for three years;

/n Black crappie: 300 adult or 3,000 fingerlings, and
/n Pumpkinseed sunfish: 100 adults.

The county also will restock fish at the Nankin impoundment of the Rouge River, located downstream from Newburgh Lake between Stark and Merriam roads in Westland.

Those species and numbers include:
/n Fathead minnows: 5 gallons;
/n Bluegills: 1,000 finger-

lings;
/n Largemouth bass: 200 fingerlings, yearly for two years;
/n Channel catfish: 100 fingerlings;
/n Northern pike: 50 fingerlings.

Wayne County will restock the fish once the excavation of sediment contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls and a second fish kill are completed, but officials believe that will not be finished until next year.

Children can 'Catch A Dream' at Nankin Mills

The legend of the Dreamcatcher comes to Nankin Mills Interpretive Center on Saturday, courtesy of Wayne County parks.

Children and youths can learn how woodland tribes of Native Americans traditionally lived with the natural resources at hand at a workshop titled "Catch a Dream." They can hear some traditional stories used to teach knowledge, as well as entertain, including the legend of the Dreamcatcher.

Participants can learn to create their own contemporary

adaptation of the Ojibway Dreamcatcher with materials provided.

The program fee is \$2 per participant and the program is appropriate for ages 8 to adult. The program will be held indoors 1-3 p.m. at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, on Hines Drive, just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive.

For information, call the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center at (734) 261-1850.

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O&E names manager of information systems

Greg Day has been named manager of information systems for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

A 15-year employee at the O&E, Day was most recently manager of the Enhanced Media Department where he was in charge of the newspaper's Web site and all Internet-related businesses services.

In his new position, Day oversees all computerized information management systems at the O&E, which publishes 15 local newspapers in Oakland and western Wayne counties. His responsibilities include system design, selection implementation and operation.

"I look forward to consolidating all of the computer-related activities at the O&E into a more productive, efficient system that will benefit the company and increase customer satisfaction," said Day.

Day, 38, attended the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he studied computer



Greg Day

science. A 1978 graduate of Garden City East High School, Day joined the O&E as a computer operator. He was promoted to programmer for business systems, systems analyst and most recently as manager of the Enhanced Media Department.

Day and his wife, Pamela, have four children. They live in Garden City.

A poor ranking

Director says airport will see improvements after low marks reported for Detroit Metro

Y KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

A survey of airline passengers has ranked Detroit Metro Airport last in overall quality, the worst out of 36 U.S. airports, according to published reports.

Metro Airport reportedly earned the lowest scores of the airports surveyed in four of eight categories — speed of baggage delivery, ease of reaching gates, available ground transportation and ease of following signs.

In the remaining categories — cleanliness, quality of restaurants, attractiveness and close proximity to parking — the 68-year-old airport rated near the bottom. The Observer could not reach the authors of the survey, officials at Plog Research Inc. in Los Angeles, to confirm the survey findings.

"It's no secret it's an antiquated facility," said David Katz, director of Wayne County airports.

Katz said Tuesday he didn't dispute the survey's findings, but wanted to know what methodology was used, what questions were asked of passengers and when it was completed.

■ **'It's no secret (Detroit Metro Airport is) an antiquated facility.'**

David Katz
director, Wayne County airports



Terminal. That 17,000-square-foot facility adjacent to the Davey Terminal increases Northwest's counter space by about 50 percent — adding 24 new agent positions.

Another major addition since last year is the \$18.5 million extension of Northwest's busiest concourse — Concourse C. The 28,000-square-foot extension added six new gates, a 240-foot moving walkway and a ramp side shuttle stop for connecting passengers.

Northwest also has spent \$12 million on an expanded baggage terminal area to address the speed of baggage delivery cited in the survey, Katz said.

That expansion in the Davey Terminal was completed last year, including modifications to the existing conveyor system, and construction of a new conveyor system under the International Departure Facility. The expansion will increase the baggage handling capacity and improve performance, especially during peak travel periods.

"We've added more maps and signs. We're going to add customer service agents. In addition to the maps and signs, we will have kiosks."

"We were criticized for our parking, but we have a parking deck located directly across from the terminal."

"I would be hard-pressed to find a parking deck as close to a terminal as we do."

About 15 customer service agents will be added within 60 days, Katz said.

An international check-in and ticketing facility was opened in

Please see SURVEY, A8

Airport officials hope to improve security

Airport management, in conjunction with the airlines and the FAA, is working on mutual agreements to improve the convenience of airport security at Wayne County's Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Although officials believe it is not prudent to discuss all security recommendations in a public forum, airport management will share the following:

■ A \$300,000-\$500,000 investment in electronic, mechanical, and physical improvements to the airport's security system has already been agreed to Metro's

hub carrier, Northwest Airlines, with newer closed circuit video cameras. The newer cameras would feature color capabilities and would give airport security the ability to pan and zoom into specific areas or features of the airport.

The color capability will allow security to more readily spot a suspicious person who may have breached security. "You can tell if they're wearing a black, blue or brown coat," said David Katz, director of Wayne County airports.

"We can have a better chance of apprehending someone

once they're in a mob."

■ Wayne County has increased the presence of airport police in the terminal areas, and has made recommendations to the airlines to examine incentives to increase performance at the security checkpoint areas. Wayne County is asking that the airlines look into staffing and wage options as part of this plan.

■ Finally, airport management will pursue criminal charges against any individual who intentionally attempts to avoid passenger screening at Detroit Metro.

"These improvements and recommendations are designed not only to increase the performance of our security system, but also to make our passengers' travel experience as pleasant as possible," Katz said.

"Safety is always our primary goal, but we're aiming for the best of both worlds — security and hassle-free peace of mind."

Despite the fact that, by federal regulation, passenger screening falls under the jurisdiction of the airlines, not the airport.

Legislation allows for bids from county road departments

County competition

County road departments could bid for state Department of Transportation contracts under a House-passed bill sponsored by Rep. Tom Kelly, D-Wayne.

The House approved the measure 100-2, with all area representatives voting yes. But the Feb. 5 final vote gave no hint of the fierce opposition Kelly's bill received a day earlier.

Republicans and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce argued that public agencies have a built-in advantage because they don't pay property taxes as do private contractors.

Rep. Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt, got only minority GOP support for an amendment to give private bidders a 10 percent break "to level the playing field."

But Kelly replied, "If the county road commissions can offer a lower bid, let's go with it."

Next day the House was ready to vote on the bill, but one holdout was Rep. Terry London, R-St. Clair County. He saw a Wayne County plot against MDOT. Said London:

"Currently PA 51 (the road act) says road commissions may engage in contracts with the state MDOT to provide maintenance, repair, snow plowing, grass mowing and other normal repair. Road building, however, is done by private contractors."

STATE

"The bill was introduced because Wayne County was not allowed to bid on a rebuild job in Wayne and Oakland counties (1-275). Wayne County is suing MDOT because they didn't get the job. I felt the Legislature should not get in the middle of a lawsuit."

London also protested that Kelly's bill was sped through the Oversight and Ethics Committee rather than the Transportation Committee and rammed through the House just days after it was introduced.

The bill goes to the Senate. Refer to House Bill 5524 when writing to your state senator, State Capitol, PO Box 30036, Lansing 48909.

Employees rewarded

Taxpayers saved \$6.9 million last year because of suggestions by 30 state employees. Among those receiving \$23,000 in rewards were:

• Nancy Pickelhaupt, Livonia. An examiner with the Michigan Employment Security Agency, she received \$130 for her idea to modify the application form for jobless benefits, saving time in reviewing claims.

Appointments

Gov. John Engler has appointed:

• R. Eric Reickel to the Michigan Capital Park Commission, which plans and operates Capital Park. Reickel is a former parks director for Wayne and Oakland Counties. He has been Lansing's city parks director since 1989.

• Frank T. Mamat of West Bloomfield to the Construction Code Commission. A senior partner at Clark Hill, P.C., Mamat was reappointed to represent the public.

Tornado drills

Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plumouth, had no trouble at all getting passage of his bill to require two tornado drills a year in public schools.

He won 97-6 passage on Feb. 11 with no arguments against his bill to change the Fire Code to require two tornado alerts and eight fire drills instead of 10 fire drills.

"The biggest threat to children in school is tornadoes," said Law, noting that some principals have

taken children outdoors when they heard a tornado siren.

Refer to House Bill 5237 when writing to your state senator, State Capitol, PO Box 30036, Lansing 48909.

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Auto theft battle

Fee increase proposed in Lansing

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

More vehicle owners would pay \$1 a year apiece to combat auto thieves under a bill awaiting a vote in the State House of Representatives.

Owners of fleet vehicles, commercial vehicles and motorcycles would pay \$1 for every vehicle as part of their liability insurance to the Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (ATPA).

The estimated \$2.3 million in new revenue would be added to the present \$5.4 million per year for grants to regional teams of prosecutors and police. The funds are used for training and to pay investigators who fight thieves and "chop shops."

"In 1986 there were professional car thieves. They were running the show. Now we have auto theft investigators, and we are running the show," Margaret Ann Scott, head of the Oakland County prosecutor's auto theft section, told the House Insurance Committee Feb. 11.

"It works. It's a huge success," said Capt. Mike McCabe of the Oakland Sheriff's Department. "Michigan dropped from No. 1 to No. 7 nationally due to ATPA."

Oakland and Saginaw counties took the lead in seeking more money for ATPA. Since the law was passed in 1986, they said, the fee has remained at \$1, so state revenues have grown only with vehicle ownership. Mean-

while, local units have made contributions of up to 25 percent of total costs, he said.

Result: With inflation, the number of investigators has declined, and in the last two years, auto thefts have drifted back up, McCabe said.

Nevertheless, he said, Michigan has reduced auto thefts 12.6 percent since 1986 while thefts nationally have risen 14 percent, said Scott, adding, "We've bucked the trend."

Oakland sheriff's Detective Doug Edgar said multi-county teamwork is needed to chase auto theft rings. "There's a high degree of cooperation" among agencies, he assured the committee.

Please see FEE, A11

Read our Sports section

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Grant to assist children, families

Governor John Engler recently announced that the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services has awarded the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) \$855,257 in children's mental health grants for fiscal year 1998. The five-year grant is expected to total approximately \$6 million by 2003.

"This grant is excellent news for children and families," said Gov. Engler. "This money, which will help fund the Southwest Community Partnership, will allow us to develop an integrated comprehensive system of care for children with serious emotional disturbance and their families in the community of Southwest Detroit."

"A 'system of care' is a wide range of mental health and related services and supports organized to work together to provide care. This approach is designed to help a child or adolescent with serious emotional disturbances get the services they need in or near their home and community. Local public and private organizations work in teams to plan and implement a tailored set of services for each child's physical, emotional, social, educational and family needs."

"Human service agencies at the state and local level, private health care providers, private agencies and families will all be collaborating to make this effort successful," said James K. Haveman, Jr., MDCH director.

The partnership will build upon the extensive collaborative work undertaken in Michigan and Wayne County over the past several years. The system of care to be developed will be family-driven, culturally-competent, and will offer a full continuum of individualized, case-coordinated services.

The grants will also enable local communities to integrate child-and-family-serving agencies, including health, mental health, substance abuse treatment, child welfare, education and juvenile justice.

"This gives us the opportunity to really begin to meet the needs of this troubled population with a very comprehensive and holistic approach that allows the community to have input on how services will be provided," said John Van Camp, president/CEO of Southwest Detroit Community Mental Services, the agency which will be implementing this program.

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Putting the HEAT on

New law helps in fight against car thefts

While official figures have yet to be tallied, law enforcement agencies around the state are reporting that the one-year-old law making it a felony to intentionally file a false felony crime report to police is proving an important tool in combating auto theft related crime.

"We have charged 17 suspects under the statute and that's just this unit," said Lt. Paula Whitty, of the Detroit Police Department's Commercial Auto Theft Section.

Originally a misdemeanor, the penalty was stiffened to address the high rate of insurance fraud and law enforcement resources wasted investigating falsely reported crimes, said Bill Liddane, director of Help Eliminate Auto Theft, a 12-year-old auto theft prevention program that operates a confidential tip reward line (1-800-242-HEAT) for reporting information on auto theft related crimes. The new statute now holds a maximum sentence of four years in prison and/or \$2,000 fine.

"Some people have the mistaken notion that falsely reporting a car stolen or carjacked to police to collect insurance money is somehow a victimless crime," Liddane said.

■ 'With estimates that 16 percent of every claim dollar goes to pay for fraud, and with law enforcement resources spent on false reports, every citizen is a victim.'

Bill Liddane

—director of Help Eliminate Auto Theft

"But with estimates that 16 percent of every claim dollar goes to pay for fraud, and with law enforcement resources spent on false reports, every citizen is a victim."

Lis agrees. "I'd estimate that in at least 60 cases people who originally said their cars were stolen, declined to sign the report after being informed of the penalties," said Lis. "Figuring three hours per case to investigate, that's one month of a detective's time that might otherwise be spent pursuing a violent criminal."

A false carjacking report is even more costly in terms of wasted time and resources. "Because carjacking is a violent crime against a person, as opposed to a property crime, it's given a high priority. Police respond immediately and a lot of investigators are assigned."

Although it has always been a

felony to fraudulently obtain amounts over \$100, insurance companies were often reluctant to participate in prosecution of these cases fearing that if the case wasn't prosecuted successfully, they would be subject to lawsuits on the grounds of malicious prosecution. Without insurance company participation, fraud cases generally weren't prosecutable and police were left with the option of charging a misdemeanor for filing a false report, which amounted to issuing a citation to show up in court.

But now, it's a felony to intentionally make a false felony report to police regardless of whether there is an attempt to defraud an insurance company. "It appears that with the stiffer penalties imposed under the new law, insurance fraud may not seem like an easy way to make a buck," said Liddane.

Liddane encourages citizens to call the HEAT tip reward line (1-800-242-HEAT) with information on fraud and other auto theft related crimes.

"HEAT is dedicated to educating the public about the extent and true cost of auto theft," said Liddane. "When citizens are aware of a crime problem, they can act accordingly to protect themselves. The HEAT tip line is a powerful tool to help citizens and law enforcement work together to reduce crime."

HEAT tip callers are rewarded up to \$1,000 if their tip leads to the arrest and prosecution of a suspected car thief/auto insurance defrauder. Up to \$10,000 is rewarded if the tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of suspected theft ring members and/or chop shop operators. HEAT also awards \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

Since its inception in 1985, HEAT has recovered 2,412 vehicles valued at \$27,249,064. During that period, the HEAT tip line has received 5,318 calls leading to the arrest of 1,999 suspects. HEAT has awarded \$1,803,315 to tip callers since 1985.

Bill exempts some building contractors from state sales tax

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Building contractors working on a church wouldn't have to pay sales tax on the materials under a pair of bills passed by the state House of Representatives.

The fight was brief but sharp. Lawmakers passed the key bill 85-17 with seven absent and sent the first part of the package to the Senate.

"This has the same potential for fraud as the old law that was revoked," said opponent David Gubow, D-Huntington Woods. He referred to an earlier sales tax exemption for work on church property that the Legislature repealed.

"The contractor just fills out forms," Gubow complained, saying there was inadequate state regulation of the tax break.

"And it robs the state of \$8 million to \$10 million, with 70 percent of that coming

from the school aid fund.

"Not only will it cut the school aid fund, but it will cost the state money to enforce," added Mary Schroer, D-Ann Arbor.

Replied Jessie Dalman, R-Holland, the bill's sponsor: "I would hate to think the religious community was trying to defraud the government. This (taxing materials used in religious edifices) is an inappropriate place to raise revenue."

Dalman added that materials used in public housing and hospitals also are tax exempt.

Here is how western Wayne lawmakers voted:

YES — Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, Gerald Law, R-Plymouth.

NO — none.
ABSENT — Lyn Banks, R-Redford, Deborah Whyman, R-Canton.

Survey from page A6

September to help relieve curb front congestion and traffic inside the J.M. Davey Terminal. The 17,000-square-foot facility adjacent to the Davey Terminal increases Northwest's counter space by about 50 percent.

Another major addition since last year is the \$18.5 million extension of Northwest's busiest concourse — Concourse C. The 28,000-square-foot extension added six new gates, a 240-foot moving walkway and a ramp side shuttle stop for connecting passengers.

"While they criticize us for ground transportation, we have a lot of options," Katz said. That includes Metro Cars and recently upgraded taxicabs.

"Are they criticizing us for not having a train to the airport?" Katz asked.

If Katz is confirmed by commissioners, possibly as early as today, he would like to see more airport managers and supervisors out from behind the desk and walking around the airport.

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Leave A Legacy

Campaign promotes wills for charities

Hundreds of non-profit organizations in southeast Michigan will conduct an intensive educational campaign throughout the region during the entire month of March, to encourage people at all income levels to remember a charity in their wills.

The Leave A Legacy campaign is a new collaborative program sponsored by the Planned Giving Roundtable of Southeast Michigan, a non-profit organization comprising professional fund-raisers, financial planners, attorneys and accountants in partnership with the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan.

More than 20 volunteers from non-profit organizations, financial and estate planning firms, accounting firms and law firms have joined together to promote a single message

'With increasing cuts in government funding for non-profits, it's more important than ever before to have support from individual donors.'

J. Kay Felt
—co-chair of Leave A Legacy

during Leave A Legacy Month: "Giving to local charities through wills and estate planning is of great benefit to both the donors and the charities."

"With increasing cuts in government funding for non-profits, it's more important than ever before to have support from individual donors," said J. Kay Felt, a co-chair of the campaign and partner in

the Dykema Gossett law firm. "And while people in Southeast Michigan tend to be generous to charity during their lifetimes, very few people — in fact, less than 3 percent — continue that giving by leaving a charitable bequest in their wills or trusts."

John G. Fike, also a campaign co-chair and president of Philanthropy Solutions, a consulting practice in Detroit, noted that at least \$11 trillion will be passed on from the estates of World War II-generation Americans between now and the early 21st Century.

"Just imagine how much money our charities would gain by merely doubling the number of people who include them in their wills and estate plans," Fike said.

"We believe the only reason Southeast Michigan lags behind the rest of the nation in planned giving is that peo-

ple are not aware of the many ways in which they can leave a bequest. It's much simpler than it appears, and it's not just for wealthy individuals."

Because no single charity has the resources to educate the general public about the benefits and the ease of leaving charitable bequests, Leave A Legacy has devised a plan for its month-long campaign that will benefit all charities in Southeast Michigan.

Leave A Legacy has recruited community leaders to guide the volunteer effort in Wayne, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair and Washtenaw counties. It has enlisted a corps of volunteer "contactors" who are working personally with charities and financial/estate planners, to help them educate their backers and clients about charitable legacies.

Please see LEGACY, A11

Livonia resident crosses language barriers

By KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

A Livonia resident will lead an organization's effort to cross language barriers to inform ethnic groups about the advantages of bequeathing money to charities, cultural institutions and non-profit service agencies.

Maha Freij, fiscal officer for the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services in Dearborn, will head Leave A Legacy's efforts to reach Arab, Asian and Hispanic communities in Southeast Michigan.

Leave A Legacy Southeast Michigan is an organization that encourages planned gifts

to local charities and cultural institutions through wills, trusts, insurance policies and other methods.

The Leave A Legacy program is sponsored by the Planned Giving Roundtable of Southeast Michigan in cooperation with the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan. Several hundred non-profit groups from a seven-county area around Detroit are participating in the awareness effort.

Freij said the drive will give people a chance to donate to cultural and charitable organizations of which they have been a part of during their lifetime.

"My role will be the ethnic communities, and people in

those communities who have language barriers," Freij said. "We are dealing with Arab-Americans, Latin Americans and Hispanics. We will be translating materials into these languages."

Freij also serves on New Detroit's Cultural Exchange Committee, which will help her in communicating to those ethnic communities. She wants to bridge income gaps that normally exist in giving to charities and inform low- and middle-income residents that bequests can help their favorite charities.

"If constituents are exposed to this type of thinking, they will be easier to approach," Freij said.

Bilingual attorneys and

financial planners will be included in the information campaign. They in turn can advise clients who wish to donate to their favorite charities.

Bequests in IRAs can give a tax-exempt charity the money directly without a tax liability. Otherwise, the money can be subject to income and inheritance taxes if the bequest is willed to an individual.

Bequests can be used as an unlimited federal charitable deduction from a decedent's gross estate, and annual contributions to the donor's chosen bequest vehicle are tax-deductible during the donor's lifetime.

Please see FREIJ, A11

Director of engineering retires from county post

Wayne County says goodbye this week to Ed Siemert, director of engineering, who retires after 39 years as an engineer in public service.

During his 11-year tenure as Wayne County's top engineer, Siemert has overseen dramatic improvements to the county's road system and Metro Airport.

"Ed is leaving Wayne County in far better condition than he found it," said Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara. "He is not just responsible for an improved airport and smoother roads, he is responsible for laying a foundation of quality, integrity and professionalism that will outlast mere bricks and mortar."

As the county's director of engineering, Siemert oversaw a staff of 160 and an average annual project list totaling about \$50 million.

Some of Siemert's accomplishments at the county include:

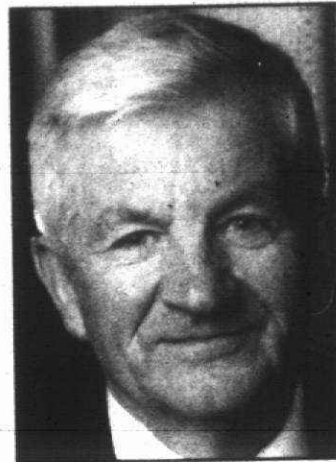
- The \$2 million relocation and replacement of the Historic Belleville Bridge. The original Belleville Bridge was part of a unique three-way bridge trade which included dismantling the 70-year-old structure and moving it to a new location near Grand Rapids. Because of its unique nature, the project was named "1996 Project of the Year" by the American Public Works Association.

- The \$8 million Merriman Road Grade Separation project at the CSX railroad tracks between Plymouth Road and I-96 in Livonia.

- Design and construction of a new south access road at Metro Airport, which, for the first time, will allow motorists to enter the airport from the south.

At the forefront

In addition to these accomplishments, Siemert was at the forefront of developing a system of prioritizing road improvements and planning decisions as the chair of Wayne County's Federal Aid Committee, which is comprised of technical representatives from each of Wayne County's 43 communities.



Ed Siemert

Serving a county as politically and geographically diverse as Wayne County brought its own challenges, but none too great for Siemert to overcome.

"Wayne County is not as homogenous as you might think," joked Carmine Palombo, transportation director for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. "But Ed has a way of cutting through all of that and getting things accomplished."

"Politics aren't what interests Ed; results are."

Siemert, a former Air Force pilot, earned his bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Michigan, as well as his master's in public administration and became a registered civil engineer.

Siemert began his professional career at the city of Livonia where he worked for 28 years. McNamara, who was mayor of Livonia, named Siemert city engineer. Among Siemert's achievements in Livonia was the construction of the new city hall.

When McNamara was elected county executive, he knew Siemert was just the person he needed downtown.

"When we came in at the county, I knew I was going to need someone who could deal with the tremendous pressure we would

Please see SIEMERT, A11

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Contract talks from page A1

Cotner agreed, saying "we want to fix some language in the benefits area."

The current two-year pact expires at the end of August, just before students return from summer vacation. The contract gave teachers a 2 percent wage hike each year, plus a half-percent lump-sum payment the first year and a one percent jump-sum payment the second.

Portelli would like to see wages for the 877-member PCEA on par with nearby districts.

"We are above Wayne-Westland and Van Buren," noted Portelli. "However, we're below most of the other districts the administration usually compares itself to."

Those other districts include Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills,

Dearborn, Farmington, Huron Valley, Livonia, Northville, Novi, South Lyon and Walled Lake.

In Plymouth-Canton, a new hire with a bachelor's degree receives \$32,412 a year. Ten years later, that same teacher will be at the top of the scale earning \$53,856.

Meanwhile, a first-year teacher with a master's degree starts at \$35,658. That same teacher will get top-scale pay 11 years later, at \$63,207.

The PCEA also is expressing concerns about teaching computer technology at the elementary school level.

"We have teachers who specialize in music and physical education, and we'd also like to see teachers who specialize in technology," said Cotner.

"There's been a tremendous increase in computer technology, and it's very difficult for the classroom teacher to take time out of his or her curriculum to teach it."

Cotner, a teacher at Salem High School, is joined on the PCEA's bargaining team by Sharon Belobradich and Dave Wert from Hoben Elementary, Joann Gustafson from Lowell Middle School, and Portelli.

"We've begun surveying our members to find out what issues are important to them," said Portelli. "We're in the process of putting together proposals."

To comment via e-mail: tschneider@oe.homecomm.net. If your comments are intended for publication, please include your name and telephone number.

Flooding from page A1

by, my little car floated a few feet further," Sharon Sanders said in a telephone call to the Observer.

Sanders and her daughter, Renee, along with a grandson, were headed home when they tried to drive through a small lake on Ecorse Road at Haggerty. Eventually, a Van Buren Township police officer was able to escort them from their car and help push the vehicle to the roadside, she said.

The trio made it back to Canton wet but intact.

Casari estimated there were 20-30 calls Tuesday night from residents dealing with basement water problems. Most were from cracks in walls or poor seals around windows, he said. The

township received 21 reports of inoperable sump pumps from residents.

"There really haven't been any reports of sewage back-ups," WTUA was at its holding capacity and normally unused pumps and storage were called into service, according to Casari. Tom Yack, Canton supervisor, said stations were "pumping 15 million gallons per hour" by 6 p.m.

Canton Police said water over Sheldon Road near Proctor led to its closing early Wednesday. "A couple of cars had to be towed out," said officer Leonard Shemanske.

Shemanske said police responded to a typical number of "fender-bender" accidents on

Tuesday and none could be attributed strictly to the inclement weather.

Information on emergency flooding and water-handling procedures was posted on local access cable channels Tuesday. Homeowners without sump pumps who live in areas which may flood should check basements periodically and remove valuables from the floor, Casari said.

Residents living in developments with detention ponds will notice that the ponds are full but should begin discharging water within a few days, he said.

Staff writer Valerie Olander contributed to this story.

Teens welcome at bowling 'Lockdown'

Police officers are planning to pull an all-nighter Friday-Saturday and are extending an invitation to pre-teens and teens, ages 9-15 to join them.

The All-Night Lockdown will be held from midnight-7 a.m. at the Superbowl bowling center (45100 Ford Rd.) in Canton.

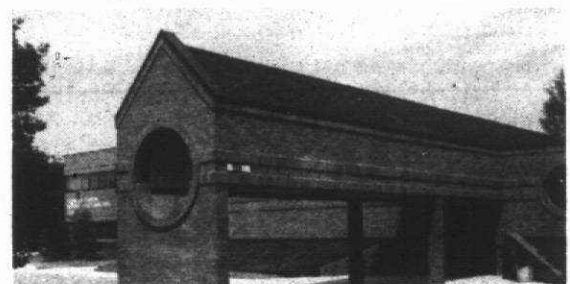
Activities will consist of all-night bowling, a feature movie presentation, D.J. music and dancing, pizza, pop and a conti-

nental breakfast. There will be awards for special tournaments, D.A.R.E. merchandise giveaways and random prize drawings.

Canton's Crime Prevention Officer Leonard Shemanske will be joined by community policing representatives from each policing-team area to coordinate recreational activities and interface on a social level with the youths.

This is an official Lockdown. Participants will not be able to leave without an adult. Supervision will be provided by Canton police reserves, Explorers and adult volunteers. No alcohol or smoking will be permitted.

Admission is \$15. Tickets are available at the door. For more information, call Shemanske at (313) 397-5344.



Sports complex from page A1

negotiations we can't do who they are right now," said Griffin.

Some of the highlights: ■ The ice arena will be two full-size regulation rinks with room for a pool, a third sheet. It will be open to an "internationally-known" and feature private dining rooms, an upscale bar, a snack bar-and-possible restaurant.

■ The basketball facility is 32,000 square-feet with seven hardwood floors seating for 1,500. There are three outdoor basketball courts, two sand volleyball pits and a mountain climbing area. ■ The Dumas' (basketball facility) in Deomb County) won't hold a game to this, Griffin said.

■ The indoor sports facility will be 117,000 square-feet in size with various fields, including several real-time roller hockey rink. The indoor operator said fields will be donated to the high school during slow times, such as 10 p.m.

■ The golf complex is 100,000-square-feet with two 18-hole stalls each. It will be designed with turf and dou-

■ 'Joe Dumas' (basketball facility) won't hold a candle to this.'

Scott Griffin, — developer

able as fields for soccer and Lacrosse, which is said to be an up and coming sport.

■ An indoor/outdoor recreational facility comprising five or six acres and a fitness center. (Few details were available).

"There's things we can't talk about right now. Some of the plans will just blow you away," said Turner.

Griffin added, "This was just the meat and potatoes."

Other negotiations

Part of the contract with Canton Township will require that residents have first chance to use the facilities, particularly the long-awaited ice arena. Griffin said the operator expects prices will be in comparison with others at \$110 to \$180 an hour for ice time.

"The ice arena construction would begin this summer and be

open by September to make economic sense," said Scott Griffin. Next week officials are expected to sign a "due diligence" agreement with Griffin Properties.

Officials will have site plan approval of all developments on the property.

Some of the economic benefits outlined by Budget and Finance Director Tony Minghine, include the takeover of a special assessment for the paving of Haggerty Road and the property going on the tax rolls once privately owned.

Several members of the Plymouth Canton Hockey Association were in attendance Tuesday and appeared awed by the plans.

"I think it's more than I anticipated. I'm overwhelmed," said Wally Hill, who initiated a citizens committee to build a public ice arena.

Fellow committee member, Ralph Shufeldt said, "I hate to steal Wally's word, but I'm just overwhelmed. I couldn't be happier."

To comment via e-mail: tschneider@oe.homecomm.net. If your comments are intended for publication, please include your name and telephone number.

Voters pass bond issue

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school district property owners will see a 4-mill tax increase this summer after supporting a \$108.3 million bond measure in Tuesday's special election.

Taxes will increase \$180 annually for the owner of a \$90,000 home.

School officials say the 22-year measure will pay for long-needed building renovations and educational technology including new computers in every classroom.

"This is a great day for the children of Wayne-Westland schools," a jubilant Superintendent Greg Baracy said Tuesday night.

He claimed victory for the bond proposal at 9:25 p.m., just 85 minutes after polls closed. His announcement drew cheers and applause from some 100 supporters gathered inside the district's Dyer Center on Marquette.

District voters passed the bond measure 56.7 percent to 43.3 percent. Unofficial totals showed 2,768 voters supporting the ballot proposal and 2,112 opposing it.

WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOLS

Only 4,880 of the district's 68,000 voters braved heavy rains and strong winds to go to the polls, marking a paltry 7.1 percent turnout.

Basking in the victory, school board president Debra Fowlkes didn't seem to notice that she was standing on carpet soaked by rains that had leaked into the Dyer Center.

"I'm so excited," she said. "I was nervous the whole night. Now we can do some good things. I can't wait to get started."

Baracy attributed Tuesday's victory to an aggressive campaign waged by a citizens committee headed by parents Cindy Schofield and Skip and Kitty Monit.

"Their grassroots efforts and the charge they led on this committee was exceptional," Baracy said.

After it became clear that voters supported the bond measure, the Monits and other parents quickly dialed their cellular

phones to spread the news.

"We're calling our kids to tell them the good news," Skip Monit said as his wife reached their three Wayne-Westland students.

"We did it!" Kitty Monit said on the phone.

Skip Monit said some district residents questioned during the campaign whether committee chairs got paid for their efforts. They didn't.

"Tonight was our payment," Skip Monit said Tuesday. "This is what it's all about. This is about the children."

He called it "unthinkable" that the bond proposal might fail.

Only scattered opponents publicly criticized the bond proposal. Some said school officials should have had a plan years ago for gradually repairing buildings and improving classroom technology.

Baracy said the \$108.3 million bond issue will allow officials to move away from "crisis management."

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center open from 8 am till 10 pm, 365 days a year.

An interactive health education center will open in

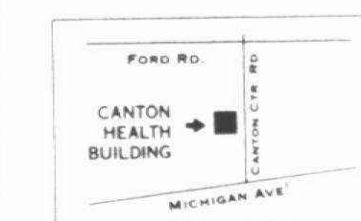
the building in early 1999.

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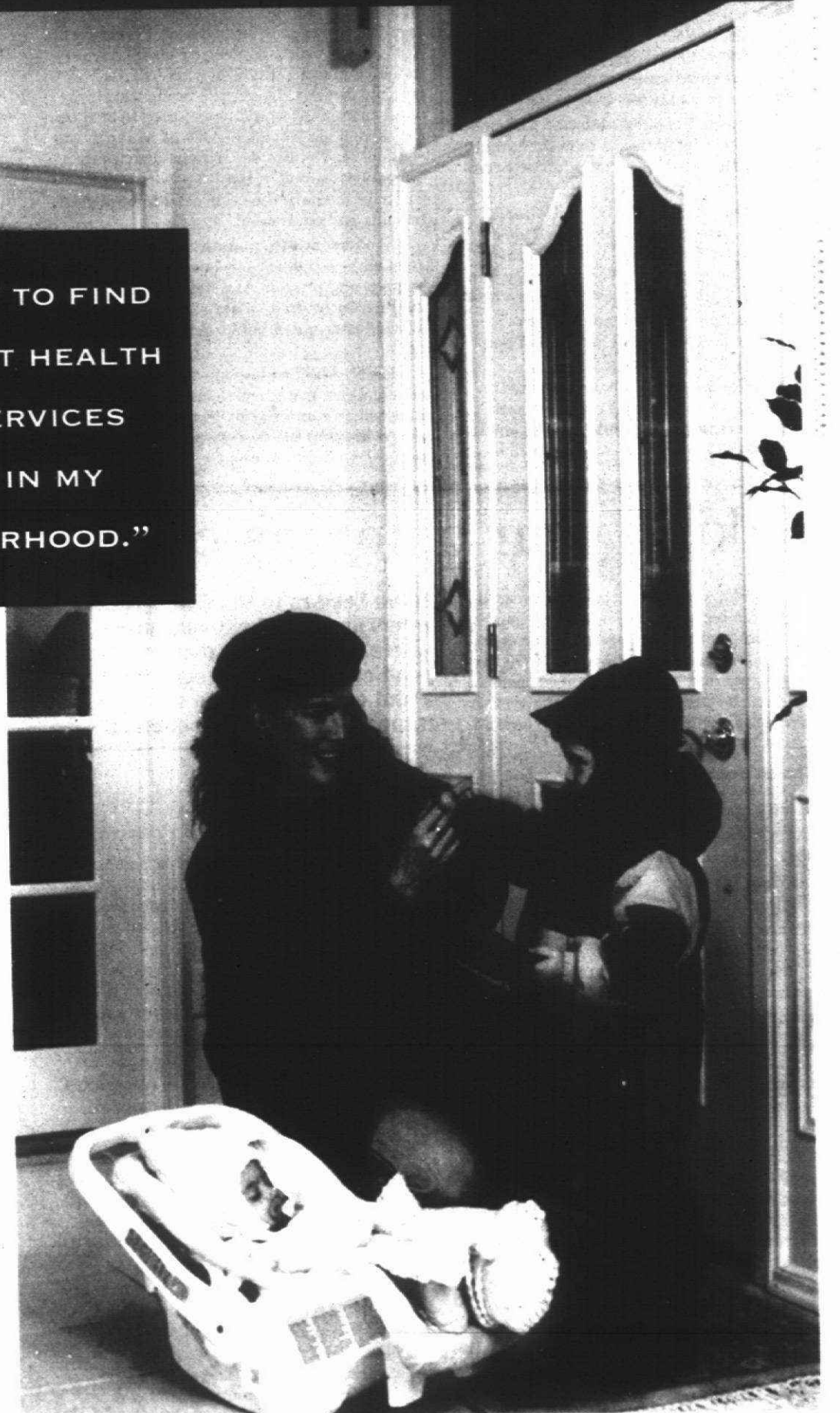
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The case for ALS

Upgrade is community decision



It's easy to paint the issue of Advanced Life Support with dramatic, broadbrush strokes. Who, after all, wouldn't want paramedics showing up at their door in a medical emergency with the highest level of training possible? Who wouldn't want those paramedics to be able to hook up an IV and begin lifesaving measures as soon as possible—even before heading out the door to the nearest hospital emergency room?

But deciding to upgrade to ALS—and determining whether public employees or private contractors should provide such services—just isn't that simple. A series of stories in today's Observer points out factors communities must consider, including:

- Population, community demographics and location in relation to hospital trauma centers;
- How many runs require or benefit from ALS;
- Increased fire department staffing;
- Additional money for training;
- How much revenue can be collected by billing for ambulance services.

Clearly then, implementation of ALS provided by local firefighters is something that needs to be handled on a community-by-community basis.

In Canton, where the process is already under way, demographics alone provide a strong case for the change. Canton is the largest of five remaining Wayne County communities not providing its own ALS services.

In township surveys, residents have expressed a desire for a higher level of publicly-provided EMS care.

So far, Canton officials have budgeted about \$220,000 for training expenses and additional money to hire three firefighters by the end of the year. Those expenses will be off-

set by increases in the townships SEV (State Equalized Valuation) due to new construction and revenue from ambulance transports.

Last month, the township began billing residents \$200 and non-residents \$300 per trip. The fees, which are usually covered by insurance, will increase to \$350 and \$500 when ALS services are offered in the fall. Previously, Canton didn't charge for EMS transport.

In the Plymouths, Huron Valley Ambulance provides ALS. But members of the Plymouth Community Fire Department earlier this year asked the local governments to consider allowing firefighters to provide the advanced service. Unlike Canton, the Plymouths have not conducted any survey to determine what residents want.

Neither the city or township officials have officially addressed the issue in public. Residents in the city and township have a right to offer their comments—before any decision is made.

We recognize that allowing firefighters to be trained and to provide ALS is a form of job security. But it goes beyond that. Providing ALS would be a costly venture for taxpayers in the Plymouths. Right now, HVA bills patients directly. Under the firefighters' proposal, more staff would be required to beef up the current staff of 23, as well as training and equipment. The fire department also would bill patients directly, but it appears taxpayers will have to share the costs of additional staff, training and equipment.

The Plymouth Community firefighters must make a public case for their desire to upgrade and provide ALS before officials in the Plymouths make a decision, one we hope is made after much public debate and discussion.

Clearly, ALS has become a big issue in our communities. But it is a decision that must be made on a community-by-community basis, always keeping the desires, needs and pocket-books of residents in mind.

Making your opinions count

If you regularly or even occasionally read this space, chances are you're interested in opinions—reading others', expressing your own. This page is set aside in your Canton Observer newspaper to share opinions about pertinent issues for people in our community. Our viewpoints show up on the left half, yours on the right half.

That starboard side keeps this opinion page afloat, as the most important space on this page. Our Letters to the Editor space works as sort of a town square where readers can stand up for a position, issue or person; complain about or compliment a story; or issue a challenge on a subject.

It's also a section of the newspaper that generates plenty of questions from the public. With that in mind, it's important that we share our philosophy of letters.

■ We publish nearly all of the letters we receive. The exceptions are those that are libelous—meaning publishing them injures someone's reputation—and those that are not signed or their authenticity cannot be determined.

■ Local letters with local content get top priority. Those written by people who live or work in our community that deal with local issues are of keen interest to our readers. Letters written by people in our community that focus on state or national issues—perhaps even those we haven't written stories directly about—also get priority. Timeliness is also important, and we'll try to ensure that a letter regarding a proposed city ordinance decision, for example, is published before the vote on that subject.

■ Lower on our priority list are letters from those people who live in our community and send us one or more letters almost every week. If we published all of their letters, we wouldn't have space for any others and it wouldn't be fair. Lastly, people who live outside our community but send letters to local newspapers to advance their own personal or political agenda often get pushed to the bottom of the pile. Some will never run.

■ Please be succinct and concise. We ask letter writers to keep their comments to 300 words or so—so that lots of people can be published on this page. We reserve the right to edit for length, style and, of course, grammar

■ Our Letters to the Editor space works as sort of a town square where readers can stand up for a position, issue or person; complain about or compliment a story; or issue a challenge on a subject.

and punctuation.

(If you want a bit more space for a guest column, please call or e-mail the editor.) Shorter letters also make a difference around election time when we become deluged with letters urging yes or no votes on, for example, a millage election. In those situations, we're forced to decide on either first-come, first-served basis or sometimes by running a representative collection of the letters received.

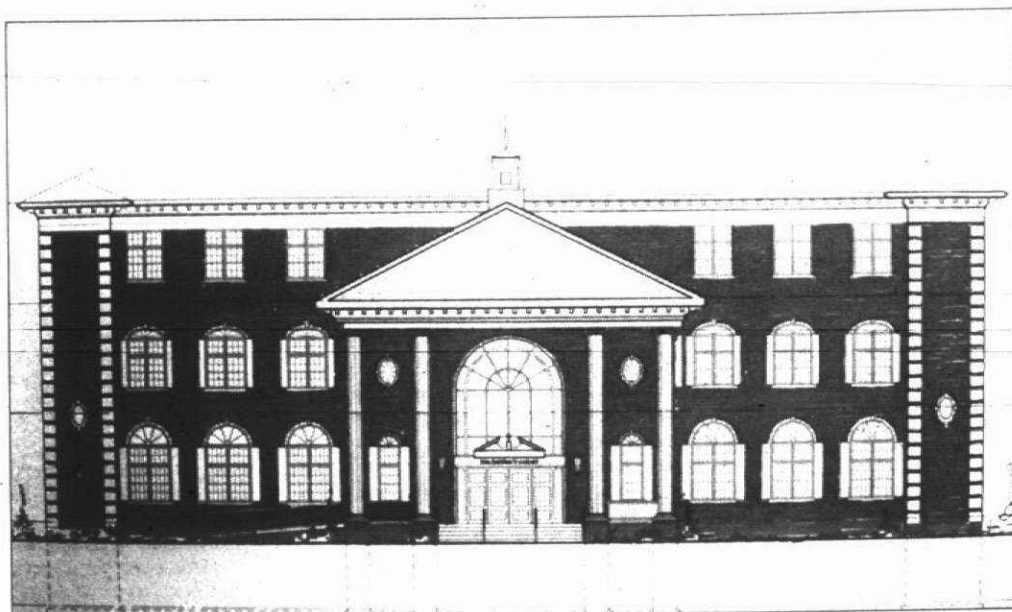
■ Legibility is key. We want to get your words correct so we ask readers to please type and double space letters, though very clear handwriting or printing can be used too.

■ Agreement isn't necessary, either in grammar or opinion. We'll fix the English if it needs to be fixed to make readers understand your point. And, whether we agree with your point of view or not isn't a factor in determining which letters to publish.

■ Get the letters to us. We'll accept letters via e-mail (please send your letter in a text format), fax transmission, (734) 459-4224—or traditional snail mail—with e-mail being the easiest for us to process. The e-mail address is tschneider@homecomm.net. They must include a signature (other than e-mail), printed name, city of residence and telephone number. Only the name and city of residence (or title and group name if applicable) will be printed, but we use other information to verify the authenticity of letters.

Your opinions play a valuable role in your newspaper, so keep those letters coming. As always, if you have any questions about a letter you've sent or any of these explanations, call Ted Schneider, community editor, at (734) 459-2700, or contact managing editor Susan Rosiek at (734) 953-2149 or e-mail srosiek@homecomm.net.

Design dilemma



Courting controversy: A \$9 million plan to rebuild the 35th District Court, shown in this architect's rendering, drew decidedly mixed reaction when it was unveiled last week. Local officials, including Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack, questioned whether there would be enough revenue to build and operate the courthouse as proposed. The courthouse, which serves five communities including Canton, was destroyed by fire last July.

LETTERS

Thanks for donations

The veterans who are the patients in the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Ann Arbor were the recipients of much-needed personal care items (shaving cream, razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, antiperspirant and shampoo). Other items donated were socks, assorted games, pens, pencils, and stationery.

All the items were collected and donated by the students of the Plymouth-Canton elementary schools. The donated articles were picked up and then sorted, packaged, then delivered to the VA Hospital by Commander Gary Burman Sr., Vice Commander Gary McCoy and Chaplain Edna Somers of American Legion Beasley-Zalesney Post 112 of Plymouth Township. Commander Burman of Post 112 said this was the third year that the students have participated in the program.

A letter from Peter M. Oestreicher, the volunteer coordinator at the medical center, said the items would be given to the patients as needed. The hospitalized veterans greatly appreciate these items and are happy that the students and their families have not forgotten them.

Each school received a Letter of Participation from the American Legion Post 112. All the members of Post 112 and the veterans at the VA Hospital all say "thank you" to each family involved in this program of goodwill.

Joe Burman
commander, Post 112

Starr guilty of treason

The president is a victim of a witch hunt. A relative handful of radical Republicans, with Kenneth Starr as their point man, have for years sought to undo in the courts what the American people did at the ballot box, elect Bill Clinton president. First, Kenneth Starr invented the Paula Jones suit against the president and then he was appointed "independent" counsel to investigate the alleged involvement of the president in the alleged Whitewater scandal.

Granted, during the legal maneuvering involved in defending himself from Starr's witch hunt Bill Clinton may have suborned perjury. Nevertheless the greater crime is Starr's. He—motivated by partisan politics—has for years sought to undermine the presi-

dent, punishing him, as well as his family and friends, emotionally, financially and politically for the "crime" of winning the 1992 and 1996 elections. I believe Starr's witch hunt can justifiably be called treason.

Our government is founded upon the peaceful transfer of power from one party to another. When one party seeks to undermine that transfer by use of force, treason is obvious. Starr, his allies and dupes (i.e., Paula Jones) have sought to undermine the Clinton presidency by numerous and unending showtrials, while a witch hunt of this type may not be as obvious or as effective as brute force, it is still damaging to the body politic—still treason. If Clinton is impeached as a result of this witch hunt, America will have to face many more of these until some faction takes up arms, either in self-defense or in rage over their inability to "get" an "enemy" politician, and we tear ourselves apart in civil war.

Tony Wentworth
Farmington Hills

Generosity noted

We, the youth of Geneva Presbyterian Church, would like to thank the community for the many generous donations collected between Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. On Dec. 26, we spent the night outside in boxes, to raise awareness about homelessness and to collect donations for C.O.T.S. (Coalition on Temporary Shelter). That night, our story was covered on Channel 4. Although we only had one man stop by with clothing that night we were all excited because his donations along with our own filled the whole collection box!

That was on Friday night. When we arrived at church for Sunday morning worship, our box was full of goods and had changed from being just full to the top to flowing over the side and onto the floor. If that weren't enough, one of the corners of a Sunday school room was piled with garbage bags full of clothes; it was miraculous! Apparently, the church office had received calls all day Saturday and person upon person was showing up with arms full of donations.

Stock shelves of homeless relief organizations run low, especially during winter months. Thanks to your generosity, someone who is struggling this winter will be a little warmer inside and out. Thank you again.

The Geneva Youth Council
Canton

Canton Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Poll: Voters are worried about young people smoking

More than one out of every three high school kids in Michigan engages in a life-threatening activity each month, yet little has been done to protect them.

No law has been effective in stopping kids from flipping a few dollars on a store counter and walking away with a lifetime addiction to nicotine. No amount of indignation has caused the tobacco companies to stop using seductive advertising to attract more young people.

Not surprisingly, tobacco use among kids has reached dangerously high levels. In Michigan, nearly 39 percent of high school kids smoke, and more than 11.1 million packs of cigarettes, costing \$20.6 million, are illegally sold every year to kids under 18.

The grim reality is that smoking will kill more than 230,000 Michigan children alive today. And it is as popular as ever among America's youth.

Despite all that we know about tobacco and the deadly toll it is taking, without a comprehensive, national tobacco control effort, there is no reason to believe this will change.

A public-opinion poll of Michigan voters—released in December by a coalition that includes the Michigan State Medical Society, the American Heart Association, and the Campaign for Tobacco-Free-Kids—found that Michigan voters are deeply concerned about the tobacco issue, especially the epidemic of youth tobacco addiction, and strongly support congressional action on a national tobacco policy that would protect kids.

Almost three-fourths of voters said it is important that Congress address the issue of a national tobacco policy within the next six months. Few public policy issues command this level of support.

After decades of battles against the tobacco industry, a dramatic opportu-

GUEST COLUMNIST



DR. PETER DUHAMEL

nity to change the role of tobacco in our lives has been created. It is an opportunity that started with lawsuits filed by state attorneys general against the tobacco industry in Arizona, Mississippi and Michigan—and has now become a priority in our nation's capital. It is an opportunity that now rests squarely with Sens. Carl Levin and Spencer Abraham, Reps. John Dingell and David Bonior,

and all those in Congress who want to protect kids from tobacco.

The stage has been set for Congress to act. Numerous tobacco control bills have been introduced, and President Clinton has committed to push for legislation this year.

If members of Congress choose to ignore voters who are demanding prompt action, they may be forced to pay a steep price on Election Day. According to the poll, 44 percent of Michigan voters said they would be more likely to choose a candidate who favors a national tobacco control policy, while only 15 percent said they would be more likely to vote for the candidate who opposes such a policy.

Nearly half of all Michigan voters said they would be more likely to cast their vote for a candidate who doesn't take tobacco-industry political contributions. Just 14 percent said they would be more likely to vote for candidates who do accept these contribu-

tions. Given the industry's checkered past, it should come as no surprise that the survey revealed that 72 percent of Michigan voters want limitations on tobacco advertising aimed at kids, while 81 percent believe that the nation must restrict youth access to tobacco in retail outlets.

Each of these steps on its own may help protect our children from tobacco—and parents clearly have a role, too—but none will single-handedly cure the problem. To end the scourge of youth tobacco addiction, America must have in place a broad, national policy that attacks tobacco on every level. Michigan voters agree: 71 percent believe a national tobacco policy is important to help parents discourage kids from smoking.

Dr. Peter Duhamel, M.D., is president of the Michigan State Medical Society.

Not taking credit helps many achieve a great deal

Dan Murphy, Oakland County executive in the 1970s and '80s and one of Michigan's finest public servants, used to say: "There's no limit to what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets credit."

I thought of him when a starry-eyed state Rep. Lyn Banks, R-Redford, came to me after one of Democratic Gov. Jim Blanchard's State of the State messages. "Did you see this?" she asked, pointing to Blanchard's text. "He's picking up one of my bills. And this, and this? These are all Republican bills."

Until lately, Republican Gov. John Engler has been different. He almost never (hrrrrumph!) borrowed Democratic ideas. Then came the school technology issue. I quote, in order, from documents of the day:

Sept. 25, 1996—Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, announces a plan to put computer technology in all

kindergarten through fourth-grade classrooms.

His SB 1188 would earmark at least 75 percent of the Michigan Renaissance Fund (known as the Michigan Strategic Fund under Blanchard), or \$25 million, for school technology grants—computers, modems, printers, software, teacher training, and so on. Many education groups, including unions, endorse it.

Peters argues that Michigan ranks in the bottom 20 percent in the nation in school technology—specifically, 44th in classroom computers, 41st in modems, 41st in printers. (Peters' press release.)

Sept. 30, 1996—Jim Tobin, communications director of the Michigan Jobs Commission, said economic development is the right approach for the Renaissance Fund.

"If we do something for the schools, it ought to come out of the education,"



TIM RICHARD

Tobin said. (Amy Lane, Crain's Detroit Business.)

Oct. 7, 1996—Engler's appointees to the Renaissance Fund board allocate the money to local governments for land assembly, land reclamation and infrastructure for economic development.

Engler says he dislikes Peters' bill because it amounts to "another line

item in the budget ... We had over 100 categorical programs in our school aid bill (prior to Proposal A) ... We've gotten rid of that."

Engler says school districts should pay for their own technology from their \$11 billion in state aid. He sees a Peters-union plot to free up more general fund money for higher teachers' salaries. (My story, this newspaper.)

Feb. 4, 1998—Gov. Engler will electrically send lawmakers a \$30 million plan to make sure Michigan students and workers have access to the Internet and other computer technology. Money for the three-year plan will be tapped from the Renaissance Fund, an account set aside for economic development.

Engler's plan includes 100 grants of \$10,000 each this year and next year to schools, libraries and other community centers to expand the

availability of computers to students and others. (Mark Hornbeck, Detroit News.)

Feb. 4, 1998—"My goal is to make these resources available statewide. Technology can bring the best and brightest educators—our 'master teachers'—and learning programs to all our state's children ...

"Our goals include ensuring that EVERY Michigan child has an equal educational opportunity ...

"While MY (emphasis added) education technology plan ..." (Text of Engler's message on education and technology.)

Footnote: Peters claimed credit only for announcing the plan—not for devising it.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His Touch-Tone voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

Prison spending out of line

The devil, as they say, is in the details. And reading the fine print in the state budget proposed last week by Gov. John Engler proves the adage.

Coming into an election year, the governor wants state general fund, the main source of discretionary spending, to grow just 1.5 percent, less than inflation and, therefore, by any measure politically correct.

Despite all the soaring language in the State of the State speech, much of what Engler wants to do in the coming fiscal year will be paid for by those nasty people at the federal government in Washington, D.C.

Remember the \$200 million in extra highway repairs? Comes from additional federal highway aid, as well as an increase in the state gasoline tax. What about the nice idea of subsidizing health insurance for 156,000 uninsured children? Paid for by a \$64 million federal grant.

And where does the \$500 million for the much touted program in toxic waste cleanup and improvement in state parks come from? Borrowing, that's where. The governor wants to issue bonds, which is another way of saying he wants to borrow the money and let his successors figure out how to pay for it.

The only notable homegrown increase in the \$8.77 billion general fund budget proposed by Engler is for—remember, it's an election year—prisons. The governor wants to spend \$180 million to build space to house another 5,400 inmates. More prisons means more spending on prisoners, and the governor wants to channel another \$56 million to the \$1.4 billion we already spend on the Michigan Department of Corrections, a 4.2 percent increase.

I suppose no one should be surprised at the priority given to making more slam space. After all, prison inmates don't vote, and the political pros say there's no downside to a sitting governor's wanting to spend more on warehousing criminals.

What's curious about Engler's proposal, however, is that he doesn't say a thing about the fact that costs per inmate in Michigan prisons are considerably above neighboring states such as Ohio. Before we go plunging into another orgy of prison construction, wouldn't it make sense to take a serious look at just why Michigan's costs per inmate are so much higher than other states? The idea of a Blue Ribbon Commission on prison costs, so far, has been received with a cold shoulder from the governor's office.

So who gets the shaft in the governor's spending plan? Colleges and universities, mostly. Engler wants to increase higher education



PHILIP POWER

■ ... the governor can always blame college trustees for raising tuition.

appropriations by just 1.5 percent in the coming year, well below the rate of inflation. There is no doubt that if his recommendation holds, universities will have no choice other than to bump up tuition yet again. But, heck, most college kids don't vote, and the governor can always blame college trustees for raising tuition.

There is no doubt that higher education benefited during the past two fiscal years from appropriations in excess of the inflation rate. But a quick look at the history of state spending on colleges and universities—well below the rate of inflation for the past 20 years—suggests that just two years of catchup are not enough. State Sen. John Schwarz, chair of the Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee and the Legislature's main authority on spending for colleges and universities, will hold hearings on the state of state funding for higher education in Ann Arbor at 10 a.m. Friday. Another will be held at 10 a.m. March 2 in Oakland University's Meadowbrook Hall.

"There's no need to sound alarmist right now," said Schwarz, pointing out that the Legislature traditionally works to find extra money in the state budget to keep tuition at state colleges low.

But that will be especially tough this year. Because of a Supreme Court decision, the state will pay \$1.1 billion to school districts to settle a suit over funding for special education. And Engler wants to do a tax cut in an election year, not to mention the extra spending on prisons.

That's budgetary politics in an election year. What you get the increased bill for your kid's tuition at college, don't call me. Call the Governor's Office at (517) 373-3400.

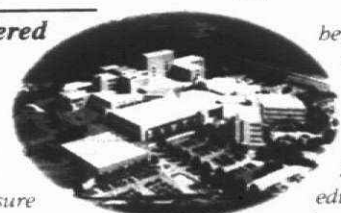
Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homeonline.com

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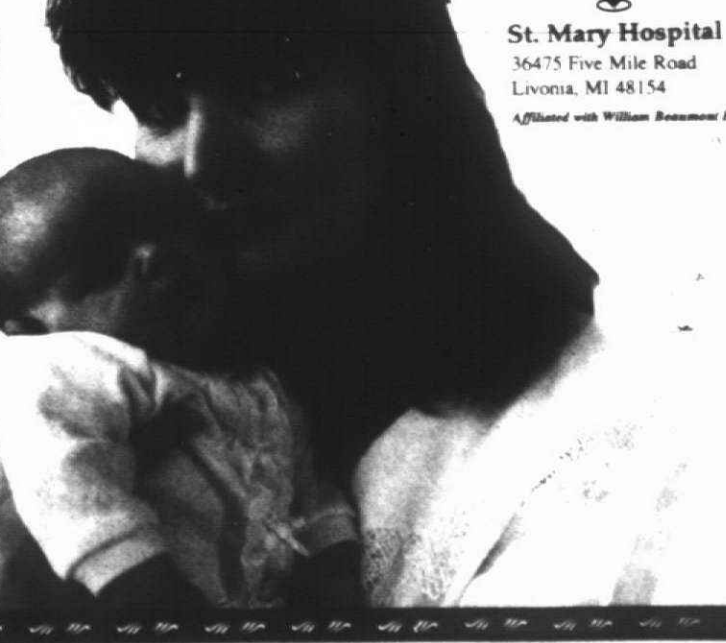
her little girl can visit when it's convenient for me. I can even have someone stay overnight in my room.

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OBITUARIES

GILBERT H. RIX

Services for Gilbert H. Rix, 87, of Plymouth were held Feb. 8 at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Jacob Dressler officiating. Burial was at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy. Local arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mr. Rix was born on July 8, 1910, in Armada, Mich. He died on Feb. 3 in Plymouth.

Mr. Rix graduated from Armada High School. He attended the University of Cincinnati, majoring in chemical engineering. He was a radio and TV engineer at WWJ. He was a member of the original WWJ (now WDIV) television crew as an engineer and

technical director. He worked for WWJ for 31 years from 1944 to 1975. He was a resident of Plymouth since 1984.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Martin H. and Flora Rix.

His survivors include his wife, Marie C. Rix of Plymouth; three daughters, Patricia (Terry) Patton of Plymouth, Carolyn (Tom) E. Rougeaux of Redondo Beach, Calif., Kathleen (Randy) A. Tripp of Adrian, Mich.; one son, Douglas (Jane) G. Rix of Rockford, Ill.; five grandchildren, Bradley (Kristin) Patton, Heather Patton, Justin Tripp, Sara Tripp, Holly Tripp; and two great-grandsons, Taylor Patton

and Nathan Patton.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 17220 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 100, Southfield 48076 or Risen Christ Church-Building Fund, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth 48170-3446.

ESTELLA "SHERRY" MEYER

Services for Estella "Sherry" Meyer, 87, of Northville will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23, at Casterline Funeral Home in Northville. Visitation will also be held at Casterline Funeral Home from 3-9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22.

Mrs. Meyer was born in Matthews, Miss. She died on Feb. 13 at Harborside Nursing Home in Rockledge, Fla.

Mrs. Meyer was an antique dealer in Northville and owned the Weathervane Antique Store. Her family owned the Meyer Berry Farm. She was an elder and clerk of session of the First Presbyterian Church in Northville. She also was a founder of the Co-op Nursery School, and was a dental assistant in Plymouth for 10 years.

She moved to Northville in 1941, where she lived for 50 years on Eight Mile Road. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard Meyer, in

June 1977; and two sons, Michael and Pat.

Her survivors include her two sons, Howard F. Meyer of Plymouth, Lawrence L. Meyer of Northville; one daughter, Sheridan L. Meyer of Cape Canaveral, Fla.; seven grandchildren, Debra Bostwick, Kelli Kahn, Fred Meyer, Tim Meyer, Matt Meyer, Michael Meyer, Robert Meyer; eight great-granddaughters; and two great-grandsons.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

TAYLOR ELAINE WOODRUFF

Services for Taylor Elaine Woodruff, 7, of Canton were held Feb. 16 at the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home in Canton with the Rev. Robert Bayer officiating. Burial was at Highland Cemetery.

Taylor Woodruff was born on July 1, 1990, in Wayne. She died on Feb. 12 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. She was a second-grade student.

Her survivors include her parents, Gregory Woodruff and Donna Bissell of Canton; one sister, Chelsea; and one brother, Lucas.

RUDOLPH KASIC

Services for Rudolph Kasic, 81, of Plymouth were held Feb. 14 at

St. Kenneth Catholic Church with the Rev. Joseph S. Mallia officiating. Burial was at University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor.

Mr. Kasic was born on Aug. 11, 1916, in Lackawanna, N.Y. He died on Feb. 10 in Royal Oak.

Mr. Kasic was a painter. He also served in World War II. He was the beloved husband of Bette, dearest father of Katherine and Christopher, loving grandfather Jennifer and Matthew. His family and many friends mourn his sudden passing. Bette, his wife of 42 years, anchored his life. His faith in God sustained Rudy and his family, and the Lord blessed them abundantly. He was truly thankful. His family was warmed by his gentle heart. A smile became him.

Other survivors include his brother, Martin Kasic of New York; one sister, Julia Taylor of New York; and one brother-in-law, Joseph (Audrey) Bolstrum.

Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice or as Mass offerings.

JEREMIAH "JERRY" ROWRY

Services for Jeremiah "Jerry" Rowry, 65, of Ann Arbor will be held today at Second Baptist Church with the Rev. Emmett L.

Green officiating. Burial followed at Fairview Cemetery. Local arrangements were made by Muehlig Funeral Chapel.

Mr. Rowry was born on Aug. 26, 1932, in Coahoma County, Miss. He died on Feb. 13 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia.

Mr. Rowry served with the Army during the Korean War. Mr. Rowry worked for Green's Cleaners in Ann Arbor. Since 1973, he owned and operated Jerry's Shirt Laundry in Plymouth. He was an avid bowler and loved to golf.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Moses, J.C., and Elijah.

His survivors include his wife, Margaret Wilder Rowry; two sons, Ronald Ginyard of Long Beach, Calif.; Mitchell L. Rowry of Ann Arbor; two granddaughters, Tivonia and Sylvia Ginyard; four brothers, Peter, Ezra Lee (Mary H.), Herbert Jr. (Doris), Roosevelt (Dianna) Rowry; three sisters, Ruth M. (Sam) Peppers, Pearlene Sullivan, Ida (Floyd) Covington; one sister-in-law, Marie Rowry; and a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Memorials may be made to Mott Children's Hospital.

Officials: white particles in water not harmful

Canton Public Works officials said this week that residents finding plugged aerators or white particles in their water can attribute these to a harmless substance called "pipe scale."

Reports about the harmless white particles have increased recently following treatments by the city of Detroit to minimize lead and copper in the drinking water. Samples tested by the city of Detroit meet the regulations for safe drinking

water as mandated by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. According to officials with Detroit's Water and Sewerage Department, pipe scale is not harmful.

Pipe scale is the white particles from the carbonate layer found on the inside of most household plumbing. In Michigan, the surface water contains dissolved minerals which, over time, form a coating on the inside of household plumbing.

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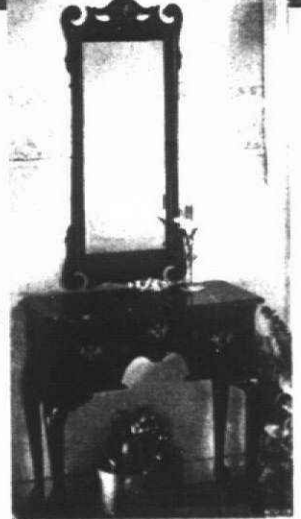
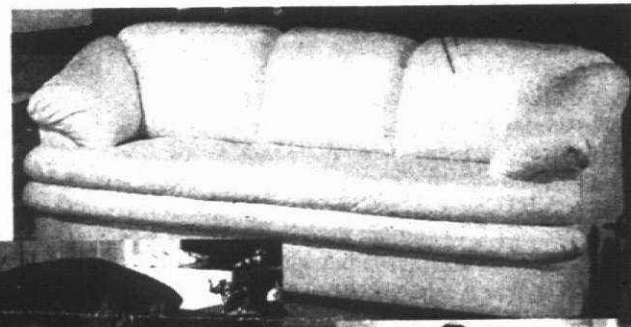
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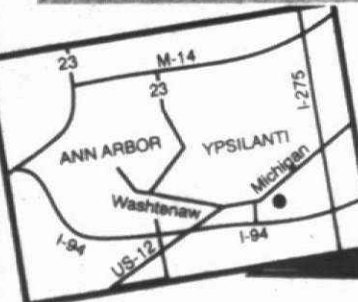
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REAL ESTATE UPDATE

by John Goodman
Coldwell Banker Preferred

BUYING IN A BUYERS' MARKET

Is the real estate section of your local paper filled with stories about how slow the real estate market in your area is? Is it taking months to sell the homes on the market? If this description fits your area, and you have been waiting for the perfect time to buy a house, this is the time!

This kind of market is referred to as a "buyers' market" for good reason—it is an opportunity for buyers to select from a large number of homes that could satisfy their needs. Everyone involved is ready to bend over backwards to make it possible for you to buy your dream home. Most sellers are highly motivated and so are the local Realtors, loan officers, title companies, and other professionals involved in the transaction. It is important to remember that the real estate market runs in cycles, and conditions can change without a lot of warning. This could be the perfect time to contact a good Realtor to discuss your needs and to explore the possibilities available to you.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying or selling real estate, contact John Goodman, one of the top 9 sales agents nationally out of 80,000 Coldwell Banker agents for 1994, 1995, and 1996. Call 810-908-2799.

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED LISTINGS



Novi Colonial in Lochmoor Village. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, spacious master suite, with many other amenities. \$312,900.



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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

Monica affair is opportunity to stress values

"Ooh-la-la, I can see your underpants." That used to be as bad as it got on America's playgrounds. But the '90s have brought us to a new low. Just about anything and everything is said within earshot of Junior America.

Steve Lopez, in his "Monica" (do you even need the last name Lewinsky?) expose for Time magazine wrote, "Kids are learning all too much, all too fast, as charges of sex and lies beam into every home." Yes sir, our fourth-graders are quickly learning just what life is all about, from infidelity to one-night-stands to oral sex. If WE'RE burning out from overexposure, what could be happening to the kids?

What's a parent to do? Never turn on the news again? Don't let your children read magazines? Keep them from the sordid details that splash across the front pages of the newspaper? Keep the car radio off from here forward? Stay away from the Internet? Blocks, locks and blinders could be in big demand, if we go down that road.

Once again, a "window of opportunity" is flashing before us. The window is open to anyone whose child is asking questions and being inquisitive about it. But here's the twist. You can inculcate your children even further by not only explaining the facts and the new vocabulary words, but also by sharing with them what your family stands for and what your belief system includes.

A friend of mine commented that her daughter has learned the definition of adultery in the context of the Ten Commandments. When the latest scandal unfolded, her daughter came up to her and asked what the president had done wrong.

Chance to explain

Mom took that opportunity to talk about "cheating" and how it was the same as adultery. Because the daughter already knew the Ten Commandments, she was able to make the correlation between the allegations and what she knew to be right and wrong.

This led them to talk about the fifth-grader's idea of the office of the presidency and the expectations people have for the office. Her sense of it was, "He couldn't have possibly done that." It might be the time when the parent can bring up the whole area of rumors and gossip and how we have to be careful about our "rush to judgment" before all the facts are in.

The information era has brought us into the insta-info category. The glaring, blaring news flashes come at us at warp speed. And before we can make heads or tails from headline, the next one is on its heels. Without time to reflect and cogitate on the latest sound bite, we quickly make a value judgment and then go about our day.

Prime example: Mom, dad and child are sitting watching "Entertainment Tonight" on television. The host just announces that Ms. Movie Star just had a baby with her boyfriend, Mr. Movie Star. How do you feel about that? Is that something that your family agrees with or not? If indeed you feel strongly that people should not have babies out of wedlock, it needs to be conveyed to your child right then.

More typically what happens is that the kids are left to process the story on their own. Parents of 4-year-olds only have to say, "Mommy and daddy think people should be married before they have babies." Parents of elementary children might make a simple statement like, "It's too bad that the couple didn't do it the right way and get married first." Then your child understands that in this family, there is a right and wrong way to do things.

Grab the opportunity

If particular values are important to your family, you must grab the opportunity to talk about the informa-

Please see SENSORS, B3

■ These days, speeders, inconsiderate drivers, even slow drivers can easily find themselves on the receiving end of abuse from their fellow motorists and more and more, the abusers are women.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Carla Liberato, a self-proclaimed "female road rager," has been called "crazy" on more than a few occasions.

The first time was on a rain-soaked night in the 1980s when she was so enraged at a male driver that she spewed racial slurs as she slapped a lug wrench in her hand.

"He was being cautious and driving slow, but that wasn't what got to me," the 38-year-old Livonia resident said. "I put on my flasher to go around him and he didn't like that. So when I got in front of him, he was tailgating me. I hit the brake and he didn't like that at all. Finally, he swung out from behind me, zoomed past me and slammed on the brakes."

After harassing each other for about a mile, Liberato and the man pulled over. Seeing the lug wrench on the floor, she whipped it out and carried it with her as she confronted the driver.

"I was so enraged. He could have sat on me and made mincemeat out of me. He just stood there, shook his head and said, 'You're crazy, lady.'"

The second time was two years ago when a fellow driver infuriated her after he refused to let her in his lane. It made her miss the turn into her apartment complex.

"I was so ticked off that I pushed him out of his lane and into the left-turn lane," she said.

Meeting up a few miles ahead, he got out of his car and began kicking her truck. By then Liberato had studied Tae Kwon Do for six years, but the discipline it taught her "had gone out the window."

"I was hanging onto just a thread of Tae Kwon Do," she said. "He was kicking in the side of my door and I just sat there flipping him off."

A woman who had witnessed the event stopped in front of him and Liberato and flagged down a police car. That's when Liberato - and the male driver - began their "recovery" from road rage.

Once the man realized that charges could be filed against him, he apologized for becoming violent.

"He said he had his 7-year-old son in the car. He said, 'I have a really bad temper and I can see it in my son. Now this is going to stay in his memory forever.'"

"I felt really bad for this guy; it was just as much my fault as it was his," she said. "I was feeling more than embarrassed. It was humiliation. You can't turn that off. That feeling lasted all the way into the evening."

Female road rage

Liberato is part of an increasing group of women who suffer from "road



TAMMIE GRAVES/STAFF ARTIST

Women drivers come to grips with road rage

rage." According to the Insurance Information Institute of New York, the number of fatal traffic accidents involving women drivers has risen 18 percent in the last 20 years. Women are involved in a higher rate of non-fatal accidents than men, the institute said.

The increased aggressiveness of women drivers may reflect changes in society, said Loretta Worters, the institute's director of public relations.

"Just as we have an increased number of women in the workforce since the 1960s, more women have also gotten behind the wheel - and taken out their daily stress on the other drivers on the road," she said.

In 1963, about 43 percent of drivers, or 40 million motorists, were women. Now the 88 million female drivers make up about 50 percent of motorists in the United States.

These changes have also been reflected in the premium women pay for insurance. The cost of auto insurance has slowly increased for women, grad-

ually erasing a disparity that once existed for insurance costs between the genders.

Keeping a level head and avoiding highway confrontations may not only save your life, but it may also help keep your insurance premiums down by encouraging safe driving practices, according to Worters.

"If another driver cuts you off or tries to provoke you, don't play their game," she said. "You may not only save your life, you may save money on your insurance by establishing a safe driving record."

Sometimes, that's not so easy, according to a Canton woman who wished to remain anonymous.

"I don't instigate, but if I feel it was something done to me, I have the compulsion that comes over me to retaliate," she said.

If she feels she was wronged she will flash obscene gestures at the driver. Male drivers usually aren't thrilled with that.

"I've never had a problem with another female; I've never even had an altercation that's gotten as far as a gesture with a female driver," she said. "It's always been males. They will always retaliate - tailgating me, following me for miles and miles and miles. I have to make a last-minute maneuver like getting off at an exit to get them off my tail because I don't want them following me home."

'Drive like me'

Vanessa Davinich, a 19-year-old Ypsilanti resident, explained that her rage stems from her need to get to work on time. The 1996 Plymouth Salem High School graduate works as a nanny in Canton.

"I usually leave about 7:05. I can get there by 7:30 a.m. unless there's someone in front of me who's going slow," she said. "On Geddes (Road), there's so much traffic going toward Ann Arbor that it's impossible to pass."

"I want to get places and when the people are going slow in front of me, it's aggravating. They do it all the time. I wish everybody could drive like me."

Dave and Janet Steimel have been victims of female road rage in their Livonia neighborhood. Dave Steimel noticed a minivan speeding through a local side street and honked his horn at the driver after it nearly "came off the road where there is a slight rise."

"In my rear view mirror I watched as the driver made a very aggressive U-turn and sped after us," he said. "I decided to pass by my home not knowing what type of person was rapidly approaching. We ended up at a traffic light on Middlebelt and Seven Mile. The minivan screeched to a stop behind me and a woman - I couldn't call her a lady - jumped out, leaving a small child in the passenger seat."

"With a heavy accent, she used extremely foul language at both my wife and I told her, in so many words, that she was nuts."

The driver and Janet Steimel had a few words. As the light turned green, the driver sped up, passed their vehicle, and hit her brakes several times before turning.

"How thoughtful of her to provide us with her license plate number before she tore off," Dave said.

The Steimels went to the police station with the information. The officer said they would trace the plate and give her a call. Later, the officer told them he couldn't call her because her number was unlisted.

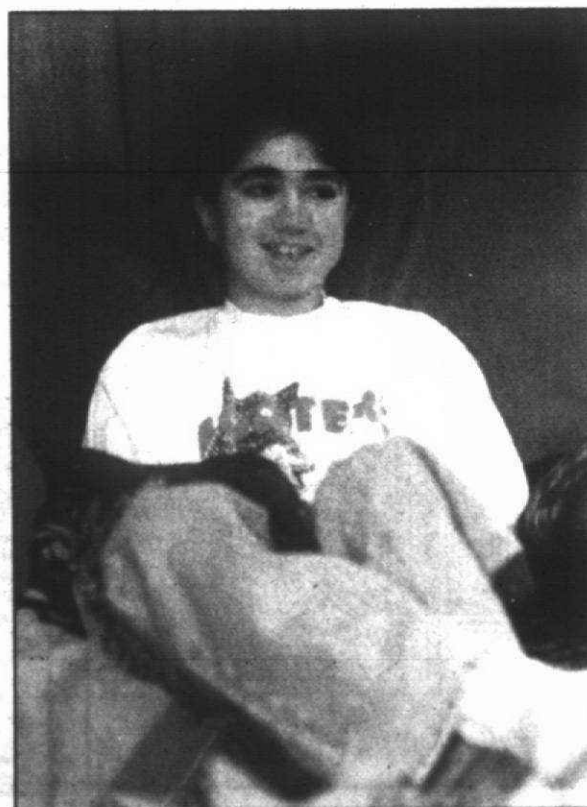
Liberato, a John Glenn High School graduate, said she hopes she can help other women road ragers by sharing her story. She stressed that the side of her that retaliates against fellow drivers is "not the kind of person I want to be."

To keep herself in check, she keeps a glow-in-the-dark cross in her truck that says "He lives."

"I just look at the cross and say 'It's not worth it. It's not worth that horrible, horrible feeling that I had that night.'"

Life after transplants is good for teen

Couch potato: More than 2 years after undergoing a second lung transplant, Greg Unger is savoring such teenage pursuits as driving a car. He's getting up early for school and finding the energy to exercise, something he couldn't do because of the cystic fibrosis that was slowly taking his life.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRENNER

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

In fall 1996, Greg Unger's biggest concern was recovering from his second double-lung transplant.

Now the Canton resident grapples with getting up at 5:30 a.m. for school and mustering the energy to exercise.

"He's a little bit of a couch potato," said his sister, Jamie, with a laugh.

But you won't hear any complaints from the Unger family. They're happy to see the 17-year-old alive and well.

Greg Unger was six months old when he was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis, a genetic disease that causes an abnormal accumulation of mucus in the lungs and other organs. It literally suffocates and starves its victims.

He had his first double-lung transplant in August 1995 at St. Louis Children's Hospital. He was doing fine until April 1996 when malignant nodules appeared on his lungs because the donor tested positive for Epstein-Barre, a herpes-like virus which is thought to cause infectious mononucleosis.

His physicians treated it by decreasing his immunosuppressant medication which in turn caused his body to reject the lungs.

"From there everything escalated; it was one thing after another," said his mother, Barb Unger. "His lungs were so

badly damaged that there was nothing they could do short of retransplanting. We went out for dinner and he was so sick that he couldn't walk into the restaurant. We had to carry him in."

Although Epstein-Barre can be life-threatening to transplant patients, doctors will still transplant the organs even if they test positive for it. Barb said that's because it doesn't affect some patients.

Family ordeal

Greg's condition deteriorated so quickly that there wasn't time to find a deceased donor. One of the few choices the Ungers had was to donate a lobe of their lungs.

Initially, his 29-year-old brother Kris, an avid runner, was approached, but he was apprehensive to go through with the surgery because of the decreased lung capacity he would have afterward.

Twelve hours before the surgery, Jamie, 24, and their father, Bill, of Mount Clemens found out they would be the donors for the Sept. 4, 1996, surgery, also at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

"Jamie was just concerned about helping her brother," said Barb as Jamie rolled her eyes. "She didn't care about the cost to herself. It was really sweet on her part."

"Kris would have done it if the other two didn't qualify."

Please see UNGER, B2

Organizers get ready for annual Mercy High auction

Interested in owning a Harley Davidson motorcycle? How about getting some tickets to Detroit Red Wings of the University of Michigan football games?

The price could be right if you're the highest bidder at the 19th annual Mercy High School auction, "Mercy and Me."

This year's auction will be Saturday, Feb. 28, at the high school, 29300 Eleven Mile Road, at Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills. The event will get underway with liturgy at 5 p.m. in the Mercy Chapel. The silent theme auctions will start at 5 p.m. and will close at set intervals throughout the evening.

Master of ceremonies will be Steve Garagiola of WDIV-TV and Joseph DuMouchelle of DuMouchelle Galleries will be the live auctioneer.

In addition to the motorcycle games tickets will be leases for Corvette and Cavalier convertibles, a large screen TV, pool table, seaside condominium in Jamaica, tickets and air transportation to the "Oprah" show in Chicago, Stanley Cup memorabilia, an autographed "Seinfeld"

script and Grant Hill autographed basketball.

There also will be theme baskets, needlepoint, crystal, jewelry, weekend trips and special events as well as a day on the television set with Garagiola and with Mike Holfield of WXYZ-TV Channel 7.

Tickets for the event cost \$75 each and include the silent and live auctions, a strolling buffet, open bar and afterglow party. The Mercyaire and Mercy Mimes will provide entertainment during the auction, and members of the Mercy Orchestra will be featured during the afterglow party, which includes desserts and coffees.

To order tickets or to donate auction items, call Marilyn Corbett in the Office of Special Events at (248) 476-8020, Ext. 253.

The auction is the largest fundraiser for the Farmington Hills high school and helps offset the difference between tuition and actual cost of providing an education.

It is dedicated to the late Sister Constance Banks who served

as teacher, registrar and computer consultant at the high school and lent her expertise to the annual auction for many years.

Co-chairs for the event are Al and Judy Brankiewicz of Southfield (daughter Carrie is in the Class of 2000) and Ed and Nancy Moeller of West Bloomfield (daughter Leah is in the Class of 1998, while daughters Kristen graduated in 1993 and Lindsey in 1996).

The Auction Steering Committee includes Gregory and Denise Even of Farmington Hills (daughter Paige is in the Class of 1998), James and Ann Miller of Bloomfield Hills (daughters Amy is in the Class of 2000 and Katie graduated in 1997) and Joe and Mary Lou Nowak of Northville (daughter Beth Ann will graduate in '98).

The Committee members include parents, staff, alumnae and friends of Mercy. They have had the job of soliciting advertising and gifts to make sure the auction reaches its goal of \$100,000 this year.



Oh, Mercy: Showing off some of the items available at the annual Mercy High School auction, "Mercy and Me," are Terri Ann Kozlowski (from left) who worked on acquisitions, and auction co-chairs Judy, Carrie and Al Brankiewicz.

NEW VOICES

Sam and Beth Anead of Garden City announce the birth of **Samantha Rae** Dec. 21 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Tara, 9, and a brother, Eric, 5. Grandparents are Al and Ann Anead of Garden City, Rima Anead of Westland and the late Ray Anead.

Todd and Kimberly Getz of Canton announce the birth of **Blake William** Jan. 9 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. Grandparents are John and Sally Getz and William and Jenny Curtis, all of Canton. Great-grandparents are James and Betty Getz of Renovo, Pa., and Verlin and Beatrice Curtis of Thomas.

Thomas and Cynthia Getz of Ann Arbor announce the birth of **Thomas Eugene Jr.** Jan. 1 at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids. He joins a sister, Samantha Marie. Grandparents are John and Sally Getz of Canton.

Arbor. Grandparents are John and Sally Getz and William and Jenny Curtis, all of Canton. Great-grandparents are James and Betty Getz of Renovo, Pa., and Verlin and Beatrice Curtis of Thomas.

David and Andrea Wallace of Canton announce the birth of **Jacob Tyler** Nov. 30 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Wayne and Nancy Wallace, Jill Matherly and Leonard Brown.

Ty and Kelly Iles of Livonia announce the birth of **Dana Ann** Nov. 28 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Makowski of Middletown, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Richard Porter of Waterford and Eileen Iles of Frankfort, Ill. Great-grandmother is Angela Ambrose of Livonia.

Russell and Charlene Reid of Jackson announce the birth of **Zachary Tyler** Dec. 3 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. He joins siblings, Angela, 9 1/2, Brittany, 7, Kylie, 2 1/2, and Cassidy, 1 1/2. Grandparents are Don and Linda Child of Canton and Stan and Pat Reid of Livonia.

John and Tara Belken of Garden City announce the birth of **Sean Nicholas** Dec. 30 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn.

He joins three brothers, Chad, 11, of Wyandotte, and Tyler, 9, and Ian, 17 months. Grandparents are John and Ginny Koch of Canton and Frank and Patricia Maida of Southgate. Great-grandmothers are Elsie Mariani of Dearborn and Genevieve Maida of Southgate.

Mike and Tina Miller of Westland announce the birth of **Anthony Nathaniel** Dec. 3 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. He joins two sisters, Shae, 4, and Kayla, 1. Grandparents are Jerry and Penny Jones and Penny and Larry Miller, all of Wayne.

Bill and Janet Dempster of Livonia announce the adoption of **Kayla Marie Rong**. Her parents traveled to Wuxue in the Hubei Province of China in early September to bring her to Livonia. Kayla was born Nov. 5, 1996. Her grandparents are Tom and Dolores Dubiel of Westland and Clifford and Jean Dempster of Livonia.

Stephen and Jayme Schmitt of Livonia announce the birth of **Kessa Marie** July 15 at Botsford Hospital. She joins two sisters, Keira, 4, and Kylie, 1 1/2. Grandparents are Chris and Kathy Schmitt of Garden City and Marilyn and Bob Beisiegel of Florida. Great-grandparents are Madeleine Bennett of Westland and Johnnie and Helen Belt of Wayne.

William Ferguson and Diana Johnson of Garden City announce the birth of **William Rodney Ferguson** Dec. 5 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Letta Walcott, Billy Little, Ronda Miller and Larry Johnson, all of Detroit.

Donald Hill and Krista Gress of Belleville announce the birth of **Alannah Marie Hill** Dec. 4 at the Birthing Center at Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Ariel, 28 months. Grandparents are Richard and Sandra Gress of Redford and Don and Rose Hill of Belleville.

Lions' Porcher joins fight against childhood cancers

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Matthew Goldi wasn't sure what the fuss was about. All he knew was that the man whose lap he chose to sit in was good at banging stuffed toys together.

"This time we worked on sacking the quarterback, next time we'll work on some moves," Robert Porcher told the 2-year-old Farmington resident.

A Detroit Lions defensive lineman for six years, Porcher was at Children's Hospital on Michigan last week to visit some of the youngest victims of childhood cancer, including Matthew, who has acute lymphocytic leukemia.

Arranged by Leukemia Research Life Inc., it was the first time the Rochester Hills resident had ever visited the Detroit hospital. He focused his time on visiting children on the oncology floor, offering words of encouragement and autographed pictures.

"When I walked into the rooms, I couldn't get over how upbeat the kids are," Porcher said. "I play a game and I may be sore the next day, but it will go away. To see how strong they are puts in perspective what I do."

Porcher is the honorary chair of LRL's 17th annual Evening of Hope dinner-dance, slated for Saturday, Feb. 28, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails and silent auction filled with sports

'We're a totally volunteer organization and the single largest contributor to childhood cancer research at Children's Hospital. But what we really want to do is get the message out that cancer is the No. 1 killer disease of children.'

Eric DeVore
—Leukemia Life Research Inc.

memorabilia and travel and entertainment packages. The 8 p.m. sit-down dinner will be followed by the always-popular dessert table, raffle and dancing to the music of Vizion.

Joining Porcher as guests will be Rich Fisher, Denise Dador of WXYZ-TV and Lila Lazarus of WDIV-TV, who are serving as masters of ceremony, and soccer star Bryan "The Goose" Finerty.

More than 1,000 people are expected to turn out to help raise \$80,000 for childhood cancer research. Tickets for the dinner-dance cost \$60 each and are available by calling Eileen Surma at (313) 581-5647.

Dedicated to research

The nonprofit organization is dedicated to the elimination of childhood cancers through research at Children's Hospital, and since its inception in 1981, LRL has raised more than \$2 million.

"Ninety-seven cents of every dollar we raise goes to research," said Eric DeVore. He and wife Sharon were instrumental in starting LRL in 1981. "We're a totally volun-

teer organization and the single largest contributor to childhood cancer research at Children's Hospital."

"But what we really want to do is get the message out that cancer is the No. 1 killer disease of children."

In fact, it was Sharon who contacted the Detroit Lions organization in hopes of getting one of the team members to help with the benefit. Her letter was passed on to Porcher, who was on his way to San Diego, Calif., to see the Super Bowl and then Hawaii for the Pro Bowl.

"I found the letter in my bag and read it on my way back," Porcher said. "I said, 'Oh, man, I have to call as soon as I get back. I hope she hasn't found someone.'"

"We are blessed to have you," said Sharon. "We knew you were going to be a part of us, you just didn't know."

But such was not the case with Matthew, who was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia in June 1997. His mother, Laurie, a nurse at neighboring Harper Hospital, "just knew it wasn't good"

when her son developed pinpoint spots of blood on his skin after he developed a cold.

Matthew was diagnosed with leukemia on June 3, 1997, and now receives chemotherapy daily, either intravenously, orally or through the spine, as part of his 130-week treatment.

The cancer attacks blood-forming tissue, bone marrow, lymph nodes and spleen. The disease is in remission, and Matthew has a 65 percent chance of a five-year survival rate, according to Laurie.

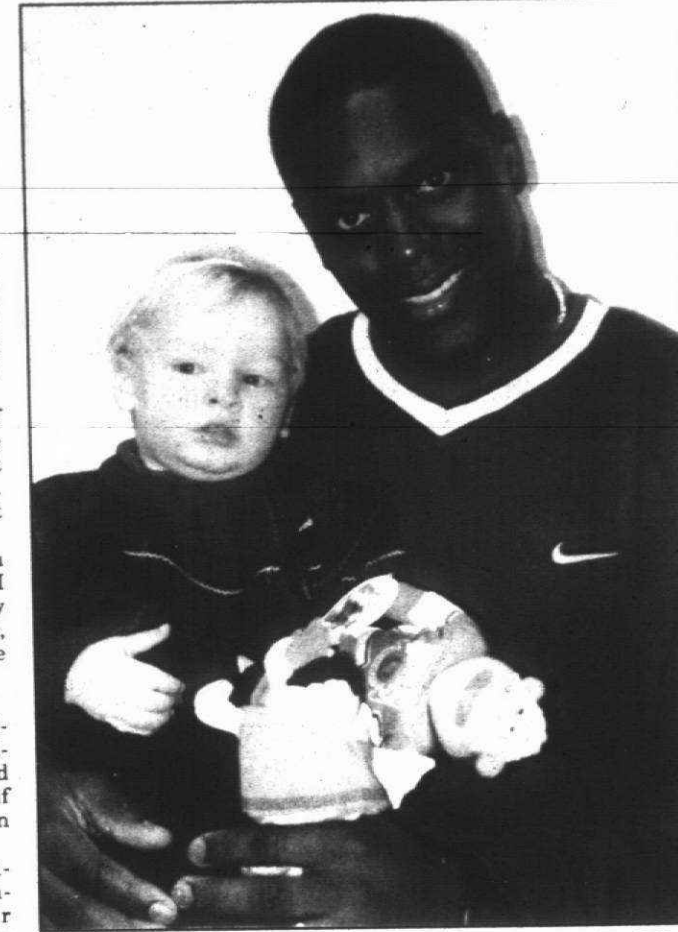
"We still lose 25 percent of our children to cancer," she said. "These little people don't get the attention they should. Childhood cancer doesn't get the research dollars it should."

"For you to be able to say you want to do this... bless you. I don't have to power to use my face or body to educate people, so it's important to us to have you say this matters to you."

Porcher deflected the compliment with a "no thanks needed." The father of 3-year-old Morgan feels he is doing a lot if he can get some of the children to smile.

That was no problem. An 11-year-old Lions fan was grinning from ear to ear after Porcher whispered in his ear and even threats of tickling couldn't get him to reveal the message.

But Porcher did on the way down to the outpatient clinic. "He told me he played football and was a running back," Porcher said. "I told him I have



What's the fuss?: At times 2-year-old Matthew Goldi was a bit bewildered about the hoopla surrounding his new found friend, Detroit Lions defensive end Robert Porcher

running backs for lunch. today. I plan on popping in from time to time."

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WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 8:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
1184 N. of Ford Rd., Westland 422-0260

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening Service 7:30 P.M.
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Gary D. Treaster, Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal C.C.E.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25600 GRAND RIVER & BEECH DAILY
REDFORD TWP.
522-2266

Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School 9:45 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
Rev. Victor F. Halboth, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Halboth, Assoc. Pastor

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

NewLife Lutheran Church
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
(with children's message/nursery)
Youth & Adult Education: 9 a.m.
Our Lady of Providence Chapel
16115 Beck Rd. (between 5 & 6 Mile Rds.)
Pastor Ken Roberts (ELCA)
734 / 459-8181

CHRISTDELPHIANS

CHRISTDELPHIANS
Sunday Lecture Series February 22nd at 2:15
"Why Was Christ's Death Necessary?"
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.
36516 Parkdale, Livonia • 425-7810

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
201 E. SPRING ST.
WEDNESDAY 10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
& SUNDAY SCHOOL
Pastor Frank Howard • Ch. 453-0323

ST. MARTIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH

24699 GRAND RIVER, DETROIT, MI
313-533-3600
Sunday Service 10:15
• Nursery Care Available
• Free Parking

NEW LOCATION AND SERVICE TIMES

45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188 • (313) 394-0357

Sunday Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

Agapé Family Worship Center

"A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE"

New Location and Service Times
45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188 • (313) 394-0357

Sunday Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

Brightmoor Tabernacle

Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI 48066 • Telephone • West of Highway 10 • 352-6200
9:15 a.m. Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"

10:30 AM & 6:30 PM
Edward Grabowenko of Perm, Siberia
Join us for prayer every Friday at 7:30 p.m.
24-Hour Prayer Line 810-352-6205

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

February 22nd
"The Best Seat In The House"
Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching
Rev. Thomas G. Badley, Rev. Melanie Lee Carey
Rev. Edward C. Coley

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36500 Ann Arbor Trail
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

February 22nd
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Rev. Edward C. Coley

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
From M-14 take Goddard Rd. South
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor

8:00
Praise & Worship Service
9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00
Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Plymouth • 453-5252

Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
46001 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1030
Sun. Bible Study & Worship 10:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.
FAMILY NIGHT - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
Arthur C. Magnuson, Pastor
NEW WORSHIPS FOR CHILDREN 453-3196

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Henry Road at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406
Rev. Donald L. Langer, Pastor
9:15 Adult & Youth Classes
Service and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
WELCOME

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH
16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 464-8444

Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sermon Title:
"Radiance Of Spirit: Veiled or Visible?"
Rev. Dr. Anna Marie Austin
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble, Pastor
A Christian Church Centered Congregation

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(313) 422-0484

Worship Services & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.

We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Ballinger, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at www.rosedale.org

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

PLYMOUTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
4295 Harper Road • Plymouth
(313) 455-3580

WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY 10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
& SUNDAY SCHOOL
Pastor Michael Deacon (D) 344-9660
School (313) 459-4222

UNITED METHODIST

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30000 Six Mile Rd. (E. of Warren & Middlebelt)
Chuck Sonquist, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-6038

Clarencville United Methodist

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Sunday Services Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
248-476-8860
Farmington Hills
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Worship, Church School, Nursery

"You shall have no other God before me,
You shall not make for yourself an idol."
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack, preaching

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36500 Ann Arbor Trail
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

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Rev. Edward C. Coley

Listings for the Religion Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-2279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

HARVEST TIME REVIVAL

Full Gospel Church is hosting a Harvest Time Revival with evangelist Jay Boyd at 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 20-21, and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, at the church, 291 E. Spring St., north of Main Street and east of Mill Street in Plymouth's Old Village. Boyd, of Elizabeth, Ky., will preach and minister each night with special singing and worship. For more information, call (734) 453-0323.

EXPERIENCING GOD

Canton Community Church begins its seven-week series "Experiencing God" with Pastor Eric Moore beginning at 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, with the topic "Kingdom Employment" at the church, 41600 Ann Arbor Trail (between Lilley and Haggerty roads), Canton. It continues with "God Speaks" March 1, "Crisis of Belief" on March 8, "God's Chiropractic Clinic" on March 15, "Kindness Outreach Sunday" on March 22 and "Experience Pays" on March 29. For more information, call the church office at (734) 455-6022.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT

St. John Bosco Church will have a Vegas Night 7 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, Feb. 20-21, in Sheltree Hall, 12170 Beech Daly Road, Redford. There will be games of black jack and Detroit craps, a roulette wheel, hourly 50/50 raffles starting at 8 p.m. and the big wheel. Admission is \$1, with food and beverages available for a cost.

DISCIPLES SEMINAR

Memorial Church of Christ will have a Spiritual Disciples Seminar with Shawn McMullen 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the church, 35475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. McMullen has had experience with churches in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky for 20 years and

for the last six years has served as campus minister and dean of students at Cincinnati Bible College and Seminary.

The seminar will cover many basic elements of spiritual growth - assimilating the Word of God, prayer, fasting, journaling, spiritual retreat and devotional literature. Lunch will be provided. For more information, call the church office at (734) 464-6722.

TAME GAME DINNER

Faith Lutheran Church will have a Tame Game Dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, in the parish hall of the church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Participants should bring their best "domestic" (or ethnic) main dish and/or dessert. Vegetables, breads and salads will be provided. There will be cartoons for children and a variety of activities for frustrated hunters and fisherspersons.

Proceeds will go to a Faith family for medical expenses and the money will be matched by AAL Branch 3177 through its "Helping Hands" program. For more information, call the church office at (734) 421-7249.

BLOOD DRIVE

A Red Cross blood drive, sponsored by Aid Association for Lutherans Branch 5058, will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information, or to register to donate, call the church office at (734) 522-6830.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance divorced and separated Christians, will meet at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, to hear Barb Owston speak about "You Are Your Own Best Friend" at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty Road, south of Five Mile Road, Plymouth.

There is a \$4 charge. Call Rose at (734) 464-3325 for more information.

The group meets on Sundays for breakfast and Mass - 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn, Five Mile Road west of Beech Daly Road,

RELIGION CALENDAR

Woman of Year



Top honor: Joyce Carravallah has been named "Lutheran Woman of the Year" for 1998 by Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church in Redford. Carravallah was among 56 Lutheran women from the Detroit metropolitan area churches and intercongregational organizations to be honored at a luncheon on Jan. 20 at the Royalty in Warren.

Redford, and at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington Road (north of Six Mile Road), Livonia - call Val at (734) 729-1974 - for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Family Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Road (east of Merriman Road), Livonia, and for pinocchio at 7 p.m. every other Friday - call Rose.

'BOOK OF LIFE'

The Garden City Assembly of God will present a real life drama, "Is Your Name Written in the Book of Life," at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the church, 1075 Venoy Road, Garden City.

The drama will be presented by Full Gospel Temple, Gateway Assembly and Taylor Assembly. Admission will be free. For more information, call (734) 421-0476.

MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Dr. Duane Cuthbertson will speak about "How to Correct Your Spouse and Get Away With It" at a marriage enrichment seminar offered at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton.

Cuthbertson is a professor of psychology at William Tyndale College, a conference/seminar speaker and author of "Marriage

Manual" and "Raising Your Child, Not Your Voice." He also is executive director of Growing Together Ministries. For more information, call the church at (734) 455-0022.

QUEST PREACHER

Bishop Ruediger Minor of Moscow will preach at 11 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Appointed in 1992 to a new Episcopal Area for Russia, Minor will have with the congregation the future of the United Methodistism in light of the vote of the Duma (Russian Parliament) last September regarding the new religious denominations whose evangelistic efforts have upset the Russian Orthodox Church.

Nursery and child care will be provided. For more information, call (313) 875-7407.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The radio series, "What Is This Christian Science and Who Are These Christian Scientists?" is being broadcast at 1:30 p.m. Sundays of WQHB-AM 1400.

The topic will be "How do Christian Scientists deal with financial concerns?" on Feb. 22, "How do Christian Scientists feel about recreational drugs such as marijuana, alcohol and tobacco?" on March 1, "How do you know there is a God?" on March 8, "How can a true Christian church be made up of lay members without clergy?" March 15, "How can any religion be scientific?" on March 22 or "If Christian Science heals, why aren't people flocking to it like they flock to material medicine?" on March 29.

"The Christian Science Sentinel-Radio Edition" also can be heard at 9:30 a.m. Sundays on WAAM-AM 1600. The conversational program discusses current public topics as well as shares healing through prayer from people all over the world.

LENTEN SEASON

St. Martin Episcopal Church's Lenten season will start with a children's Mardi Gras pageant at the 10:15 a.m. worship service Sunday, Feb. 22, at the church 24699 Grand River.

The church will also have its annual all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage dinner 5-7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 24. Cost will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for children under age 12. Dinner will be followed by evening prayer at 7:30 p.m.

PANCAKE SUPPER

St. Robert Bellarmine Church will serve a Shrove Tuesday All-You-Can-Eat pancake supper 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, in the Fr. George T. Stromke Building at the church, 27401 West Chicago, at Inkster Road, Redford. Sponsored by the St. Jude Circle, the cost is \$3.75 for adults, \$3.25 for senior citizens 60 years and older and \$2.75 for children 10 years and under.

DINNER AND WORSHIP

Wednesdays during Lent, St. Paul's Lutheran Church will have a soup and salad dinner 5-7 p.m., followed by worship, at the church, 20805 Middlebelt Road, at Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, a worship service with ashes and communion will be at 7 p.m. Subsequent Lenten services will be titled "We the Jury," a retrial of Jesus. Subpoenaed as witnesses will be Paul on March 4, Mary Magdalene on March 11, Judas on March 18, Nicodemus on March 25 and Caiaphas on April 1. Subpoenaed as members of the jury will be members of St. Paul's.

A free will offering will be accepted for dinner. For more information, call the church at (248) 474-0675.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

The Congregation Beth Kodesh Sisterhood will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the synagogue, 31840 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia. Following the meeting, a video "Yiddish Karaoke" will be shown, featuring a sing-along of old Jewish songs. Guests are invited. Refreshments will be served.

LENTEN SERIES

The Lenten series entitled "By My Hand? For My Sake?" will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays Feb. 25-April 1 at St. James Presbyterian Church's McCalmont Chapel, 25350 W. Six Mile Road, Redford. Each week there will be a different Biblical visitor. Call the church at (313) 534-7730.

INTERNET ADDRESS DIRECTORY

Metro Detroit religious leaders oppose war with Iraq

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Members of the major faith communities in metropolitan Detroit Monday urged President Bill Clinton to work entirely within the mandate of the United Nations to resolve the conflict with Iraq.

"The Gulf War was supposed to settle everything; it didn't. It just wreaked havoc. It did a lot of bad and not much good," said the Rev. John Nolan of St. Hilary Catholic Church in Redford.

Soon after the Monday afternoon press conference at the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan in Detroit, Secretary of Defense William Cohen said he's doubling the number of ground troops ordered to Kuwait to at least 10,000.

However, Tuesday the President said Tuesday he still favors a diplomatic solution to the Iraq crisis, but stressed that any solution must include free access for U.N. weapons inspectors.

Besides religious figures, the press conference was attended by businesspersons and those involved with peace and human rights organizations.

"The interfaith statement" discussed at the press conference also stated that the group opposes Saddam Hussein of Iraq and "all other tyrants wherever in the world they may be."

"We steadfastly oppose any attempt to reach a military solution, either by ourselves or with one or more other nations, because of our belief that such action will result in massive destruction and enormous loss of life, especially the lives of inno-

cent women, men and children in a nation already suffering from the tragic consequences of seven years of sanctions," according to the statement. "We believe that our government must not support the use of food and medical supplies as weapons."

Nolan, the former director for community affairs for the diocese, has been involved in social justice issues since he was ordained in 1966.

"I suppose that goes back to

my family," he said. "I didn't go to the seminary until I was 28. I was involved in things before that. That's an essential part of the gospel is the struggle for justice."

"The basic measurement for faithfulness is the human need not only individually but the way society is organized."

The group will protest military strikes against Iraq by organizing more demonstrations and disseminating information to "as

many of the churches throughout the metropolitan area" as possible.

"There's going to be demonstrations across the country in opposition to this," Nolan said. "You may know that the official position of the great majority of churches is opposed to this kind of intervention and urging that things be negotiated instead of resorting to the violence."

At St. Hilary, Nolan is going to urge his congregation to write

and call their congressional representatives.

"My hope is that we're taking this very strong posture so that there will be reasonable concessions and then we'll back off," Nolan said. "I think President Clinton has done fairly well in not intervening militarily in Haiti and some of the other places where that's been urged. I hope he doesn't break that record now by going back into Iraq."

'You may know that the official position of the great majority of churches is opposed to this kind of intervention ...'

Rev. John Nolan
— St Hilary's Church

Cable show focuses on 'servants'

Eleven months ago, Sandra Timco's "Lumen Christi" debuted on one cable TV station. Now the half-hour interdenominational interview show can be seen on five different cable stations throughout the Detroit metropolitan area.

"We have interviewed servants of the Lord from Detroit, Gladwin, Ohio, Oakland and Macomb counties and even Australia," said Timco, the show's producer and host. "This is such a fantastic way for the Body of Christ to reach the Body of Christ."

The shows feature musical guests, film excerpts or presentations of books and tapes pertinent to the show's topic. To date, shows have covered such topics as bereavement support counselors, parish nursing, Guest House (an alcoholic treatment center for the religious, chaplains from the Macomb County Jail ministry and Address George speaking about Detroit's homelessness).

Other topics covered include annulment, youth ministry, suicide, a delivered drug addict and converted homosexual along with Christian authors, artists and musicians.

Currently, "Lumen Christi" can be seen at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays on Media One's Channel 11, 2 p.m. Mondays on CTND Channel 23, reaching viewers from Monroe to Port Huron, 3 p.m. Thursdays on TCI Channel 53 in 11 Oakland County communities, Harroon Cables' Channel 6, reaching Romeo, Washington and Bruce Township, and 12:30, 4:30 and 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. Thursdays and 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. Fridays on Shelby Cable's Channel 13, reaching Shelby Township and Utica.

And with the of access coordinator Shawn Hervey, "Lumen Christi" can now be seen on Media One's Channel 11, reaching residents in Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms and Franklin.

"This opportunity allows us to exchange vital information with the community, so that people's needs may be met, but also of paramount importance, it encourages those who have not yet found their niche in the body of Christ to move forward," she said. "We are truly showing faith in action."

People interested in appearing on the show "to share how Christ is using them and their communities to encourage growth, healing, wisdom and joy," can contact Timco at (810) 254-8075.

Just Announced

A very special offer for a very limited time.

Per Month*

	Conventional 27-Month/ 27,000-Mile Lease	Advance Payment Program
Capitalized Cost	\$33,651	\$33,651
First Month's Payment	\$469	N/A
Advance Lease Payment (incl. first month's payment)	N/A	\$12,383
Down Payment (incl. first month's payment)	\$999	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit	\$475	\$475
Cash due at signing	\$1,943	\$12,858
\$15/mile over 27,000 miles		

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Down Payment

Or One Advance Payment Of



The 1998 Continental from Lincoln.

STANDARD FEATURES:

4.6-liter V-8 engine • 100,000 miles between scheduled tune-ups¹ • Second Generation dual air bags²
4-wheel disc anti-lock brakes • Remote Keyless Entry with keypad

Per Month For 27 Months*

	Town Car 27-Month Red Carpet Lease
Capitalized Cost	\$35,821
Down Payment	\$2,675
Refundable Security Deposit	\$475
First Month's Payment	\$469
Cash due at signing	\$3,619
\$15/mile over 27,000 miles	



The 1998 Town Car from Lincoln.

STANDARD FEATURES:

4.6-liter SOHC V-8 engine • Watt's linkage rear air spring suspension
Air-Speed Traction Control • Leather seating surfaces • SecureLock™ Passive
Anti-theft System • Automatic on/off headlights with delay

Cash Back



The 1998 Mark VIII from Lincoln.

STANDARD FEATURES:

4.6-liter V-8 engine • Second Generation dual air bags
100,000 miles between scheduled tune-ups¹ • 4-wheel disc anti-lock brakes
• Remote Keyless Entry with keypad

1998 Lincoln Navigator Now In Stock!



LINCOLN
*1998 Lincoln Continental MSRP \$38,500 excluding title, tax, license fees. Conventional and Advance Payment Program lease payment based on average capitalized cost of 92.73% of MSRP for closed-end Ford Credit Red Carpet Leases purchased in the Great Lakes Area through 11/30/97. Lessee is responsible for excess wear/tear. For special lease terms take new retail delivery from dealer stock between 2/17/98 and 4/2/98. †1998 Lincoln Town Car MSRP \$38,500 excluding title, tax, license fees. Lease payment based on average capitalized cost of 94.99% of MSRP for closed-end Ford Credit Red Carpet Leases purchased in the Great Lakes Area through 11/30/97. Lessee is responsible for excess wear/tear. For special lease terms take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 4/2/98. ‡For \$4,000 cash back on 1998 Lincoln Mark VIII, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 4/2/98. §Under normal drying conditions with routine fluid/filter changes. ¶Always wear your safety belt and secure children in the rear seat.

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21531 Michigan Ave.

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(313) 274-8800

DETROIT

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at Cadieux

(313) 885-4000

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Park Motor

18100 Woodward Ave.

Opposite Palmer Park

(313) 869-5000

FARMINGTON

Bob Dusseau

31625 Grand River Ave.

1 Block West of Orchard Lake Rd.

(248) 474-3170

GARDEN CITY

Stu Evans

32000 Ford Rd.

Just West of Memorial

(313) 425-4300

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Varsity

49251 Grand River

196 1 Block South of Wixom Ex.

1-800-850-NOVI (6684)

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40601 Ann Arbor Rd.

at I-75

1-800-550-MERC

ROCHESTER HILLS

Crissman

1185 South Rochester Rd.

Between Hamlin & Avon Rd.

(248) 652-4200

ROSEVILLE

Arnold

29000 Gratiot

at I-75 Mile Rd.

(810) 445-6000

ROYAL OAK

Diamond

221 North Main Street

at I-75 Mile Rd.

(248) 541-8830

SOUTHFIELD

Star

24350 West 12 Mile Rd.

at Telegraph

(248) 354-4900

SOUTHGATE

Stu Evans

16800 Fort Street

at Pennsylvania

(313) 285-8800

STERLING HEIGHTS

Crest

36200 Van Dyke

at I-75 Mile Rd.

(810) 939-6000

TROY

Bob Borst

1950 West Maple

Troy Motor Mall

(248) 643-6600

WATERFORD

Mel Farr

4178 Highland Rd. (M-59)

at I-75 Mile Rd.

(248) 683-9500

YPSILANTI

Sesi

950 East Michigan

at I-75 Mile Rd.

(313) 482-7133

The Lease Experts

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Whaler honored

Harold Druken, a center for the Plymouth Whalers, was named Ontario Hockey League player of the week for the Feb. 9-15 span.

Druken, 19, is the Whalers' second-leading scorer. In the first of three victories last week, he scored two goals and assisted on the game-winner in a 3-2 win over Peterborough; got an assist in a 6-0 drubbing of Toronto Saturday; and had a goal and three assists in a 7-2 triumph over Sault Ste. Marie Sunday.

For the season, Druken has 30 goals and 35 assists for 65 points in 53 games.

Canton freshmen excel

The Plymouth Canton freshmen volleyball team got double their satisfaction Saturday. The Chiefs not only won the Madonna University Valentine Day Invitational, their third tourney triumph this season, they also defeated rival Plymouth Salem in the championship match.

Coached by Kristie Drinkhahn, the Chiefs raised their record to 27-5.

Team members are Jessica Baker, Michelle DeVos, Sarah Holmes, Stephanie Jackson, Mary Kiesel, Christina Kiesel, Kristle Kiljanczyk, Mary Kryska, Kate Maples, Meghan Meier, Betsy Radtke, Jenny Wagner and Ashley Williams.

Canton girls 2nd

The Plymouth Canton junior varsity girls soccer team took first place in the second indoor season at the Wide-World Sports Center in Ann Arbor, competing against other high school teams in the U-19 age bracket.

The team posted a 6-1-1 record, outscoring the competition 61-14.

Team members included Sarah Anderson, Darcy Crain, Sarah Deben, Amy Dorogi, Lindsay Heimerl, Aimee Jachym, Emily Kaatz, Kristin Kopenski, Kristin Lyman, Nicole Miller, Alison Morency, Emily Neienham, Erin O'Rourke, Jessica Palis, Vicki Palis, and Theresia Radtke.

The team is coached by John Deben and Glenn Kaatz.

College standouts

•James Head, a senior at Eastern Michigan from Plymouth Salem, continues to sparkle for the Eagles' basketball team.

The 6-foot-6 forward came off the bench Saturday against Northern Illinois to play 31 minutes, making 5-of-7 floor shots to score 10 points. He also had a team-best nine rebounds, four assists, two blocked shots and a steal.

Last Wednesday, in EMU's 89-77 upset of Mid-American Conference leader Ball State, Head totaled 14 points and 10 rebounds.

The Eagles are 15-8 overall, 11-4 in the MAC.

•Amy Sonnanstine, a freshman at Wittenberg University from Plymouth Canton, finished 15th in the 1,650-yard freestyle at the North Coast Athletic Conference swim championships.

Her Wittenberg team placed fifth.

Softball sign-up

The Canton Softball Center is planning its 14th season of operation, with registration for the spring season beginning March 16. Play starts in April.

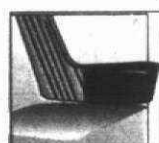
Cost for the 16-game season, which includes single games and double-headers, is \$595 per team plus umpire fees. Game balls, USSSA registration and first and second place awards for each league are included.

Register in person, Monday through Friday, 3-7:30 p.m., and Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. with a \$100 deposit at the Canton Softball Center, located on Michigan in Canton, or register over the phone with a credit card at (734) 483-5600, ext. 2 or 3.

Also, the Canton Softball Center will host USSSA Softball Tournaments every weekend beginning April 18 with the annual Early Bird Classic, which has a guarantee of four games for \$125. For more information about this tournament or for a complete listing of tournaments, call (734) 483-5600, ext. 2 or 3.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may FAX them to (313) 591-7279.

Hockey boosters taking plan to board



BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR

A lot of people in the Plymouth and Canton area would still like to bring hockey to the high schools. On March 10, they'll try to convince school board members to do just that — and it wouldn't cost the schools a thing.

For all those who thought it was a dead issue, bringing hockey to both Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem high schools, well — think again.

A year ago, the Canton and Salem HS hockey boosters went to the school board in an attempt to adopt the sport in time for the 1997-98 season. Their efforts, hampered by a lack of time and a millage proposal that put everything at the schools on hold, failed.

But according to Ed Arzno, a spokesperson for the PC/PS Hockey Booster Club, it meant a delay but not a cancellation of their plans. The association, now armed "with a viable pay-to-play program outlined and ready to go," according to Arzno, will present its proposal at the March 10 school board meeting.

There are no issues that have not been addressed, Arzno insisted — which is why he hopes there will be little, if any, opposition.

"We have a financial package, includ-

ing insurance, to put in front of the board," Arzno said, adding the sport would be "co-ed." All expenses have been accounted for, he added, from ice time and equipment costs and coaches fees to transportation.

He also said the plan would be for it to be a school sport — meaning that while it would be funded outside the system, it would be governed by school officials.

"We'll pay for it," Arzno said, "and they can run it."

Brian Wolcott, director of athletics at the high schools, acknowledged that "there are some plans out there (the school board is) looking at," adding that the board and school administration would "want controls, they do want an athletic director looking over

it."

The interaction between funding and team control could prove a major stumbling block, despite Arzno's insistence that the boosters' only goal is to bring hockey to the schools, not control it. Coaches will be selected by the school administration, as they are for all sports.

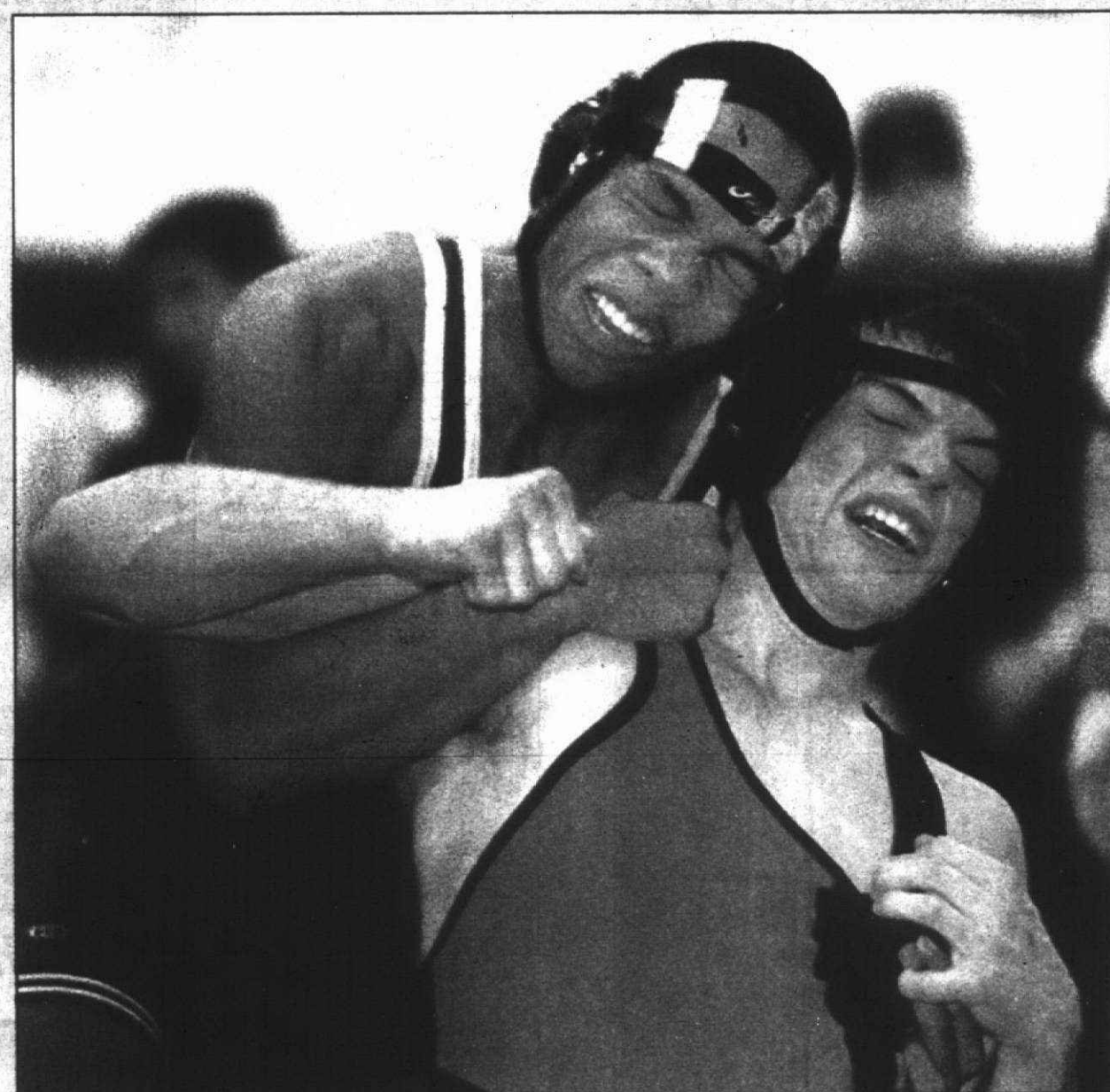
"They'll tell us what the coaches will be paid and we'll send them a check," he explained.

This would not be the only pay-to-play system for high school hockey. Birmingham, South Lyon and Northville all have similar set-ups.

Members of the booster club are expected to submit their plans to school board members and high school

Please see CEP HOCKEY, C6

Mustangs ruin Salem hopes



BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

If it was cards and not wrestling, you could say Northville trumped Plymouth Salem's ace in a winner-take-all tournament Saturday.

The Mustangs didn't have to wait long to even the score with the Rocks after losing the Western Lakes Activities Association dual-meet title two days earlier to Salem, 33-24.

Northville held the better cards Saturday in winning the league tournament and claiming the official WLAA championship.

The Mustangs scored 249 1/2 points to win their first WLAA title since 1992, the host Rocks 221 1/2. Walled Lake Western was third (196), defending champion Livonia Stevenson fourth (145 1/2) and Walled Lake Central fifth (99).

"If I'm Northville, I think I have to be happy as a pig in mud," Salem coach Ron Krueger said, "and Salem has to be disappointed because all year long we've beaten (state-ranked) teams like Holt, Bay City Western, Clarkston and Swartz Creek."

"Thursday's (dual) match was for pride. There were no trophies, no medals. Northville is real good. They came back and dominated the tournament more than we did."

Krueger added the Mustangs will probably finish higher in the state team tournament, too.

"Some people project Northville to get to the final, and I think they'll be there," he said, adding Salem will have to get past Temperance Bedford on its side of the bracket to do the same.

While the Rocks had more individual champions (5-4) and defeated the Mustangs in four of five head-to-head meetings for first place, Northville pushed ahead of Salem by scoring points

Please see WLAA WRESTLING, C6

Championship work: Salem's Anwar Crutchfield (left) outscored Northville's Ryan McCracken in the 160-pound finals to capture top honors, but it was McCracken's Mustang team that eventually won the team title, with the Rocks taking second.

Conference championship evades SC

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR

It was all there for the taking.

And Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team could feel it. A championship was within the Ocelots' grasp.

But it slipped through their fingers. A 20-point SC lead at the half melted away under the heat of Flint Mott CC's high-intensity defense and red-hot three-point shooting, as the Bears clawed back to claim a 90-84 triumph Wednesday in Flint.

The win assures Mott of at least a share of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference championship. The Bears are 21-5 overall, 13-2 in the conference. SC slipped to 12-3 in the conference, 23-6 overall.

"This is my seventh year here," said Mott coach Steve Schmidt, "and I've never seen anything like this. Schoolcraft is a very good team. It's not like they fell apart. It's just that my guys persevered."

"I know it's discouraging for Schoolcraft, but our guys just played well in the second half. That's the best game I've seen at any level."

At halftime, Schmidt's feelings were far different. His Bears scored the game's first seven points, then

went napping. With 14 minutes left in the half, they led 14-8.

That's when SC got its game in gear. A 19-1 run pushed the Ocelot lead to 27-15 and had Mott reeling. Poor shooting (12-of-35, 34.3 percent from the field) and turnovers (11) plagued the Bears in the first half.

But not the Ocelots, who converted 21-of-38 first-half shots (55.3 percent) while committing just six turnovers to take a 51-31 advantage into the intermission.

Those numbers were reversed in the second half. For the first six minutes after the break, SC kept Mott in check; the gap was still 19 (61-42). But the tide was turning.

The Ocelots made nine turnovers before the second half was half over. And Mott, limited to four three-pointers in the first 20 minutes, found its range.

In a span of seven minutes, the Bears outscored SC 30-11 — using six three pointers, four of them by Alex Spivey, to tie it at 72-all with 6:48 to go.

SC never again had the lead. "They stepped up their pressure on defense and they shot the heck out of the ball in the second half," said SC coach Carlos Briggs of Mott's effort. "Our guys did a great job. They gave

their hearts to this on Sept. 2, and they played their hearts out tonight."

The Ocelots certainly never gave up. In the final two minutes, they had four chances to force a tie, but Kevin Melson missed a jump hook from the baseline, and then they committed turnovers on three consecutive possessions.

After Melson's two free throws with 2:19 to play — which narrowed the gap to 86-84 — the Ocelots did not score again.

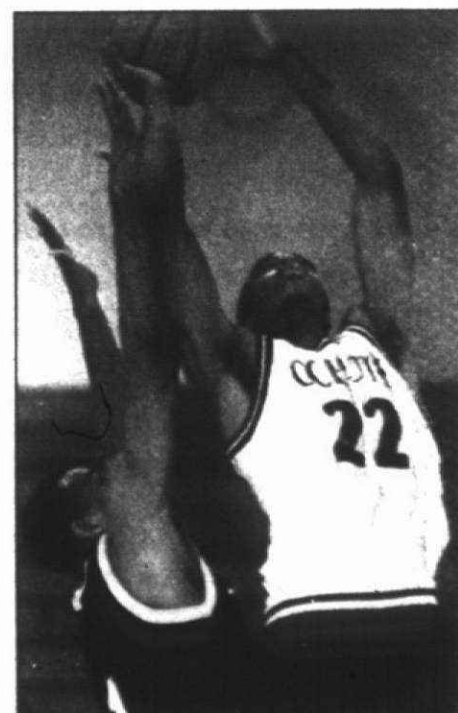
Melson's 25 points topped SC. Derek McKelvey added 21, Pete Males (from Garden City) netted 14 and Emeka Okonkwo had 12.

Spivey led all scorers, pouring in 35 for Mott (including eight threes). Eric Thompson had 19.

SC had 16 turnovers in the second half and 22 in the game, shooting 55 percent (32-of-58) from the floor. Mott had six turnovers in the second half and 17 for the game, and made 19-of-32 floor shots after the break (59.4 percent).

SC 61, Mott 55 (women): Theresa Cooper scored 18 points, and Chrissy Harmon and Amber Tackett added 10 apiece for SC's women Wednesday.

The Lady Ocelots improved to 13-12 overall, 9-6 in the conference.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Scoring demon: SC's Kevin Melson worked his way, inside and out, to score 25 points against Mott.

Salem's victory clinches title tie

Plymouth Salem was in no mood to monkey around Tuesday.

After winning eight-straight basketball games in the Western Lakes Activities Association to open up a two-game lead, the Rocks lost last Friday to Westland John Glenn — and suddenly the title that seemed certain to be theirs was in danger of slipping away.

A stumble against either of their last two WLAAs opponents could force a tie for the championship, and their opponent Tuesday, Livonia Churchill, had beaten Farmington Harrison, Farmington and North Farmington earlier this season.

But Salem was in an ornery mood, jumping in front by seven after one quarter (20-13) and 14 by halftime (38-24). That pace was maintained as the Rocks posted a 70-42 victory at Churchill.

Which brought their overall record to 13-3 and their WLAAs mark to 9-1, guaranteeing them a co-championship. Churchill fell to 6-10 overall, 5-5 in the league.

"They responded well after the defeat," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "They shot a lot better and the defense was a little more intense. A lot was contributed from the bench. It was a good

game for us."

Eleven Rocks scored in the contest, led by Andy Power's 16 points. Bhavin Patel added 10 and Tony Jancevski netted nine. Jeff McKian had seven assists and four steals.

George Kithas led Churchill with 10 points.

Salem, which outscored the Chargers 32-18 in the second game, was 7-of-10 from the free-throw line. Churchill did not have an attempt at the stripe.

Agape 70, Life Summit 53: Host Canton Agape Christian took command from the outset Tuesday, leading 22-9 after one quarter en route to its win over Port Huron Life Summit.

The win gave Agape a 14-4 overall record. Life Summit is 14-3.

Jason Helton paced the Wolverines with 25 points and 10 rebounds. Paul Anleithner added 21 points and eight boards. Stephen Haynes was best for Life Summit with 13 points.

Agape's advantage was trimmed to 35-26 at the half and 45-38 after three periods, but the Wolverines regained control with a 25-15 fourth-period rally.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Point man: Andy Power paced a well-rounded Salem effort with 16 points.

Oak, Christian 68, PCA 64: A massive first-quarter surge didn't hold up for Plymouth Christian Academy Tuesday.

Pontiac Oakland Christian outscored the Eagles 61-41 over the last three quarters in overcoming a 23-7 deficit at the end of one period Tuesday at Oakland Christian.

The loss left PCA at 11-6 overall, 5-4 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. Oakland Christian is 6-8 overall, 3-6 in the MIAC.

"The bottom dropped out," said PCA coach Doug Taylor. "I don't know what it was. It was a strange thing. We got frustrated, and our attitude got down. It took a long time to get it back."

When the Eagles did get back on track, it was the fourth quarter and they trailed 48-47. Free throws eventually spelled the

difference: PCA was 9-of-14 from the line, Oakland Christian was 19-of-32.

Derrick Isensee led the Eagles with 23 points. Scott Carthy scored 15, with Jordan Roosevelt getting 13 and Chris Brandon nine.

Oakland Christian was paced by Aaron Wilson's 19 points. Jimmy Mehlberg chipped in with 17.

Belleville 78, Redford CC 72: Senior guard John Edwards tallied 15 points and sophomore guard Kevin Harrison contributed 14 to lead the host Tigers (6-10 overall) upset over Catholic League Central Division champion Redford Catholic Central (13-3 overall) for the second-straight year.

Chris Young, a 6-foot-9 senior center headed to Michigan, scored a game-high 30 points.

John Glenn 49, W.L. Western 40: A 28-18 second-half run carried Westland John Glenn (10-6, 8-2) to the WLAAs win Tuesday at Walled Lake Western (8-8, 5-5).

Bill Foder and Eric Jones paced the winners with 14 and 10 points, respectively. Stephen Lawson added nine.

Loss puts Chiefs out of contention

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR

Now that's a role-reversal.

A year ago, Plymouth Canton was busy preparing for a run at its fourth-straight Western Lakes Activities Association basketball tournament championship (which the Chiefs got while North Farmington was getting ready for yet another trip to the "Final Four" — a reference to the bottom four finishers in the league, teams that would not qualify for the WLAAs Tournament).

But that was then. On Tuesday, Canton hosted the Raiders, with a berth in the league tournament at stake. The Chiefs had to win if they were to defend their WLAAs Tournament title. They didn't: the Raiders put together a strong finish to the third quarter, and that carried them to a 52-41 victory.

The win pushes North's record to 10-5 overall, 6-4 in the league. Canton slips to 5-11 overall, 4-6 in the WLAAs.

"I think we're in the tournament for sure," said North coach Brian Swinehart. "And that's the first time since I've been here."

For Swinehart, in his fourth year coaching at North, it was a night of firsts. "As a coach, I've never won in this gym," he said. "I'm excited to be in the playoffs, and I'm excited to come in here and win."

The Raiders are in the WLAAs playoffs for sure. Plymouth Salem clinched at least a tie for first by beating Livonia Churchill Tuesday: the Rocks will win the WLAAs title outright and earn the tournament's No. 1 seed with a victory over winless Livonia Stevenson Friday.

Farmington Harrison and Westland John Glenn are tied for second at 8-2, with North and Farmington tied for fourth at 6-4. North hosts Farmington Friday.

Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western and Livonia Churchill are all at 5-5, just one game ahead of Canton. But even if the Chiefs do win at Farmington Harrison Friday and tie for the final playoff berth, they'd lose the tiebreaker (head-to-head outcome) to any of the three teams above them.

Until the final 1:07 of the third period, the Canton-North outcome was up for grabs. But a single play changed all that. The Chiefs clung to leads of 11-7 after one quarter and 19-

BASKETBALL

18 at the half, thanks mostly to junior guard Joe Cortellini's shooting (three three-pointers in the first half).

Midway through the third quarter, Canton had a 24-20 lead. That's when things started going south for the Chiefs. A three-point by North's Alan Pennala and a three-point play by teammate Ray Lousia turned that around. Two baskets by Emir Medunjanin gave North a 30-24 lead with 1:46 left in the third.

A Cortellini basket narrowed the gap to four, setting up the key call of the game.

Lousia attempted an errant three-point from well behind the arc. Oliver Wolcott, who was defending on the play, turned around to block Lousia out after the shot and was called for a foul.

The official called it a shooting foul, awarding three free throws. When the Canton bench protested, he immediately called a technical foul.

Lousia shot all five free throws, making four, and North got possession. Adrian Bridges hit a layup, and in a 13-second span, the Raider lead went from four to 10.

"Our team can't take all that," said Canton coach Dan Young. "They can't overcome that."

North took a 38-26 lead into the final period. The Chiefs managed to pull to within seven twice in the quarter, the last on a basket by Cortellini with 3:04 left. But free throws down the stretch — mainly by Lousia; he was 5-of-6 in the last 2:11, and 15-of-18 in the game — kept the Raiders in command. For the game, North was 18-of-24 from the line; Canton was 5-of-8.

"He's been so clutch at the free throw line," said Swinehart of Lousia. "At the end of the game, our goal has been to get the ball into his hands." Lousia's 22 points paced North. Pennala added 10 and Medunjanin got eight.

Cortellini's 19 topped Canton. Next best was Scott Samulski with eight. "We're going to continue to look for other players to score," said Young.

The Chiefs will have to do it while playing in the "Final Four" portion of the WLAAs Tournament, while North assumes Canton's customary role and searches for a title.

10 serves with Pogits getting four aces.

Lachapelle was mistake-free on 15 service receptions. Pogits set up 20 balls in 48 attempts with just three errors.

Nemesis tops Blazers

Maybe Ladywood won't have to face Temperance-Bedford in the state volleyball tournament. The Blazers met the Kicking Mules for the second time in as many weekend tournaments and for the second time the result was the same — a Temperance-Bedford victory.

Last weekend in the Bedford Tournament, the host team won 15-13, 15-11 in the finals. The weekend before, in the Schoolcraft invitational, Temperance-Bedford won by a 15-3, 15-11 margin. Bedford also won during a December matchup.

Maybe a fourth meeting would be the charm for the Blazers? Pogits had 56 kills for Ladywood in the tournament with Young at 49; Brogan served 19 aces; and Brogan excelled defensively with 94 service receptions, while Lachapelle had 68 and MaryLu Hemme 46.

Pogits did a fine job of setting with 111 assists to kills. Brogan had 29. Hemme led the team with 13 blocks.

Lachapelle made 36 digs, Brogan 32, Hemme 28 and Young and Tracey DeWitt had 15 each.

In pool play, Ladywood toppled Livonia Franklin (15-12, 15-3), Burton Atherton (15-1, 15-2), Bedford JV (15-8, 15-10) and Adrian (15-6, 15-6).

In the elimination round, Ladywood ousted Atherton (15-3, 15-6) and Battle Creek Central (15-13, 15-4).

Rocks rule Creston Classic — again

For the third-consecutive year, Plymouth Salem's volleyball team made its weekend trip to Grand Rapids a pleasurable one by winning the Grand Rapids Creston Classic title.

Although the competition wasn't as overpowering as the kind Salem faced in other tournaments this season, the Rocks still put together a no-nonsense approach that kept them from losing a single game in the tournament.

Indeed, in their three pool-play matches they surrendered a total of 17 points in six games. In the 12 games they played in the tournament, they gave up just 42 points.

"We really played excellent defense," said Salem co-coach Allie Suffety. "We passed the ball, we dug up everything they hit at us, we picked up all their tips."

"We just played very well."

Salem earned the No. 1 seed coming out of pool play in the 14-team tournament by beating Grand Rapids Central 15-1, 15-3; Cadillac 15-0, 15-6; and Sparta 15-2, 15-5.

In the quarterfinals, the Rocks had a rematch with Sparta, with similar results: a 37-5-1.

VOLLEYBALL

15-3, 15-1 triumph. In the semifinals, they met Coopersville, the No. 4 seed in the tournament, and posted a 15-4, 15-6 victory.

That advanced them to the championship match against third seed Lake Odessa Lakeview, ranked seventh in the state in Class B. Salem dominated the Vikings, winning 15-9, 15-2.

Amanda Abraham led Salem with 33 kills, 13 digs, seven solo blocks and seven block assists. "She had an incredible day," said Suffety. "In the last couple of weeks, she's really come on strong."

She got plenty of help. Jenny Trott had 26 kills, five service aces and 20 digs; Kelly Street and Angie Silmon each had 19 kills, with Silmon getting five solo blocks and five block assists; Kari Flynn collected 52 assists to kills; Laine Sterling had 25 assists to kills and 11 aces; and Amanda Suder got eight aces.

The six wins pushed Salem's overall record to 37-5-1.

Churchill clips Canton

There were two things working against Plymouth Canton Monday when it hosted Livonia Churchill: First, the Chiefs didn't play their best; and second, the Chargers did play their best.

It added up to a 15-8, 15-9 victory for Churchill, which improved to 16-13-9 overall. Canton fell to 6-3 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"They're pretty good," said Canton coach Cynthia Montgomery. "They've got a good defensive team."

"They played a great game, but we didn't play up to our potential. At least we could have come closer to winning."

Stephanie Chefan's five kills was best for the Chiefs. Amy Plagens had four and Angie Germain got 10 assists to kills.

In what Churchill coach Mike Hughes called "our best all-around match of the year," Susan Hill led an outstanding defensive effort with 14 digs, while Lisa Fabrikiewicz and Beth Rutkowski each had 10 kills, and Jessica Sherman and Jenny Duncan chipped in with eight apiece.

Win streak carries Whalers close to 1st



Make that three in a row. And one back. The Plymouth Whalers concluded an immensely successful weekend by routing the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds (thanks to Andrew Taylor's hat-trick), 7-2 Sunday in Sault Ste. Marie.

The win was the third-straight for the Whalers, and it accomplished just what they hoped it would: Both Plymouth and the London Knights, leaders of the Ontario Hockey League's West Division, have now played 54 games.

The victories pulled the Whalers to within a point of the leaders; London is 32-18-4 for 68 points, Plymouth is 31-18-5 for 67 points.

The Whalers also did just what coach Peter DeBoer wanted them to — win the games they're supposed to win.

After raising their level of play to beat the Peterborough Petes 3-2 (thanks to two third-period goals) Thursday at Compuware, the Whalers completely dominated Toronto St. Michaels Majors, shutting them out 6-0 Saturday at Compuware, and the Greyhounds Sunday.

Against the Majors, the Whalers put five goals on the board in the first period, by five different players. Yuri Babenko was one of them. He added a second goal in the third period, giving him 19 for the season.

Jesse Boulerice opened the scoring with a goal (his 17th) just 29 seconds into the game. He also had three assists. Steve Wasylko and Nikos Tselios contributed a goal and an assist each, Eric Gooldy got three assists, and David Legwand got a goal, his 46th.

Robert Holsinger was in goal for the shutout; he turned away 28 shots from the Majors in earning his second shutout of the season.

At Sault Ste. Marie Sunday, the Whalers spotted the Grey-

hounds a 1-0 lead early in the game. But a goal by Taylor with 3:22 left in the first period evened the score, and another by Sergei Fedotov with just 49 seconds remaining put Plymouth ahead to stay.

Another goal by Taylor and one from Harold Draken (his 30th) in the second period cemented the Whalers' victory. Taylor completed his hat-trick in the third period, giving him 26 goals on the season. Steve Wasylko, who also had an assist, and Legwand (his league-leading 47th) also got goals.

Draken also had three assists in the game and Legwand, Boulerice and Paul Mara each had two.

Robert Esche was in goal for the victory; he made 16 saves, making his record 24-11-2 and his goals-against average 2.93.

It's another three-games-in-four-days weekend for Plymouth, beginning tonight with a 7:30 p.m. game at Windsor. On Saturday, they host Sault Ste. Marie at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday they entertain the Owen Sound Platers at 6:30 p.m., both at Compuware Arena.

East Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Ottawa 67's	33	14	8	74
Bellefleur Bulls	33	20	2	68
Kingston Frontenacs	30	21	4	64
Oshawa Generals	22	28	5	49
Peterborough Petes	17	30	7	41
Toronto St. M. Majors	13	33	9	35

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Quincy Storm	35	17	5	75
Barrie Colts	32	18	4	68
Kitchener Rangers	24	23	8	56
Sudbury Wolves	22	32	5	49
Owen Sound Platers	22	29	4	48
North Bay Centennials	14	37	6	34

West Division	W	L	T	Pts.
London Knights	32	18	4	68
Plymouth Whalers	31	18	5	67
Sarnia Sting	27	18	9	63
Erie Otters	27	26	4	58
Windsor Spitfires	18	34	4	40
SSM Greyhounds	15	31	7	37

WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Committee on Health & Human Services Committee will hold a public hearing on an ordinance to establish environmental health standards for the conduct of body arts procedures, to regulate the establishment and practice of body arts services; to authorize the environmental health division to enforce these standards and regulations by inspection, licensing of practitioners and permitting for body art establishments; to provide for suspension and revocation of licenses and permits; and to provide for misdemeanor and civil infraction penalties for violations and certain requirements and prohibitions of this ordinance.

At its meeting to be held:

Thursday, February 26, 1998, 10:00 a.m.
Wayne County Commission, Hearing Room 402
600 Randolph, Detroit, MI

You may direct any questions to the Commission Clerk's Office, 406 Wayne County Building, 600 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226, (313) 224-0903.

Public Hearing 18, 1998

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THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

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Don't forget to tune in the Friday Night High School Basketball Scoreboard Show. This weekly program airs "live" from 11:35 p.m. until midnight every Friday throughout the basketball season.

WJR's Paul Chapman hosts this fast-paced half hour show of high school scores and highlights from around the metro area. He is joined every Friday night by our sports editors who report live on key local games of interest. Be there every Friday at 11:35 p.m. on WJR 760-AM!

Opportunities are aplenty for steelhead fishing



Winter wonder: Plymouth's Bill Simeon admires a beautiful winter steelhead he recently caught on the St. Joseph River.



BILL PARKER

My ice fishing bucket is complete with dishing rods, tip-ups, ice lade and tear drops - is still resting comfortably in the corner of the basement.

I passed up a chance to get out on the ice earlier this year, when there actually was some safe ice, and now I might as well put my gear away for the season. With poor ice cover at best on all southern Michigan lakes, and more unseasonably warm weather on the way, the prospect of getting another safe cover of ice this winter is pretty unlikely.

But that doesn't mean you have to spend your weekends cooped up inside the house watching reruns of Shirley Temple movies. Consider looking up with a powerful, feisty steelhead and battling it through a surging river current.

While the rivers of northern Michigan get a ton of attention

from winter steelhead anglers the southern half of the state also provides ample opportunities. Close to home, the Huron and the Clinton rivers serve up decent winter steelhead action. In the southwestern corner of the state the St. Joseph River provides a tremendous winter steelhead fishery.

The Michigan Outdoor Writers Association met recently in Stevensville and I had the opportunity to chase steelhead up and down the St. Joe with veteran charter captain Mike Stowe of Snap-Line Charters.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources annually stocks the St. Joe and its tributaries with steelhead, which produces a outstanding fishery throughout the year. The final 25 miles of the river - from the Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth of the river at Lake Michigan - should certainly be considered when contemplating a trip for winter steelhead. Steelies average between five and eight pounds on the St. Joe, but 10- to 12-pounders are not uncommon.

Joining fellow outdoor writers Bill Simeon of Plymouth, Bob Holzhel of St. Johns and Jim Bedford of Lansing, we headed out from the public boat launch at Shamrock Park in Berrien Springs and into the slow-rolling water just above Farmer's Creek. Our rigs consisted of 4-inch leaders below a 1/2-ounce sinker on 8-pound monofilament.

We concentrated our efforts on fishing fresh spawn, but spinners and body baits also produce at this time of year.

The trick, according to Stowe, is to keep your bait on bottom and to cover a lot of water. The technique we employed was to anchor above a likely hole and bounce our offerings along the bottom, allowing the current to take the bait back into the hole.

"One mistake a lot of people make at this time of year is that they catch one fish right away and they stay on that spot for two or three hours," explained Stowe. "Either the fish are going to bite or they're not. You've got to cover a lot of water to get to the active fish."

"If you've never battled with a river steelhead you're missing out on a bout of title fight proportions. Even in the winter, with the cold water slowing their activity, steelheads are fighting machines."

We boated two fish in a half-day on the river, a magnificent 10-pounder - that had Holzhel on the ropes a couple of times before succumbing to the nylon mesh of Stowe's net - and a beautiful, brightly colored 5-pounder. We had a couple others on that we didn't land.

For the most part the fish seem to hit better on cloudy days, according to Stowe, who also makes custom steelhead rods. "It's best early in the morning and late in the afternoon, but on cloudy days they'll bite all day," he explained. "When the sun comes out the fish seem to get skittish."

Walleye and brown trout are also caught throughout the year on the St. Joe, but the predominant winter catch is steelhead.

"When the spawn starts in the spring the fishing gets tougher because the fish are more concentrated on the gravel and sand flats and there are fewer areas to fish for them," said Stowe. "The weather is warmer by then, and everyone and his brother is out fishing so sometimes it gets pretty crowded."

When the steelhead start spawning the best course of action is to get out early before the crowds arrive.

"The best thing to do in the spring is get there early and stay on your spot all day," said Stowe. "If you get out late you might as well stay home because the good spots will already be taken. It gets pretty crowded sometimes."

It's about a three-hour trip from metro-Detroit to the St. Joe. Simply get on I-94 and head west. If you've got steelhead on your mind the journey passes quickly.

(Anglers and hunters are urged to report your success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (248) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.)

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

ACTIVITIES

SPRING WALK

Bill Graig will lead a spring walk beginning at noon on Saturday March 21, at the William P. Holliday Nature Preserve in Westland. Participants should meet at the parking lot at Newburg Road, north of Warren. Call (313) 522-8547 for information.

ARCHERY

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS

A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

CLUBS

SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizens Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDYS

Fishing Buddys Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers. Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS ANGLERS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Pro bass angler Marty

Wiebelhaus will be the guest speaker at the Feb. 24 meeting. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

DINNERS

SAFARI CLUB

The 21st Annual Detroit Chapter Safari Club International Wild Game Dinner and Fund Raiser begins at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at Penna's of Sterling Heights. Tickets are \$60 for individuals and \$500 for a table of 10.

STEELHEADERS

Huron Valley Steelheaders will hold its Spring Show on Sunday, March 29, at the Southgate Civic Center. Redford's Bob Mitchell will be a guest speaker and will give a presentation on salmon trolling and Great Lakes fishing beginning at 9:30 p.m.

MEETINGS

NRC

The monthly meeting of the state Natural Resource Commission will be Wednesday and Thursday, March 10-11, at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

MICHIGAN BIG GAME HUNTERS

The Michigan Big Game Hunters Association presents Mark Ennett, a conservation officer with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, who will speak on the tree stand issues at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (313) 287-7420 for more information.

SEASON/DATES

FOX

Fox hunting season ends March 1.

RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

PIKE

Pike season ends March 15 on inland lakes statewide. Spearfishing season ends Feb. 28.

SMELT

Smelt netting season runs March 1-May 31 south of M-72 and April 1-May 31 north of M-72.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to dusk on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

1998 PERMITS
The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are available at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-477-PARKS for more information.

STAR GAZERS
Ages 8-12 will paint winter constellations in t-shirts and observe the night sky during this program, which begins at 7 p.m. Friday at Indian Springs.

located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol, and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. (810) 693-6767 for more information.

SHOWS

BOAT, SPORT & FISHING

The 15th annual Boat, Sport and Fishing Show runs through Sunday at the Pontiac Silverdome. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. today, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

OUTDOORAMA

Outdoorama '98 Sport and Travel show will take place Feb. 20-March 1 at the Novi Expo Center. Show hours are 9-30 p.m. Feb. 20, 23, 24, 26 and 27; 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Feb. 22; noon-9:30 p.m. Feb. 25; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. March 1. Admission is \$6.50 adult, \$3 for children 12 and under, and children ages five and under will be admitted free. A two-day adult pass is available for \$10 and a two-day children's pass is \$5.

SPORTFISHING EXPO
The 10th annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo will be held March 5-8 at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Show hours are 9-30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 5-6; 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 8. Admission is \$7.50 adult and \$3.50 for children age 6-12. Children age five and under will be admitted free. Coupons for \$1 off the price of admission are available at all Dunham's stores.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Free park use requires a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3178; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

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WEEKEND

BLUE SPRUCE TREES

Madonna University will hold a faculty music festival at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, in Kresge Hall on the campus at Schoolcraft and Levan in Livonia. Admission is free, however, donations to the music scholarship fund will be accepted. The recital will include piano, violin, flute, and guitar performed by several faculty members. For information, call (734) 432-5709.

COFFEE HOUR

U.S. Rep. Lynn B. Westcott has scheduled a coffee hour from 8:30-10 a.m. Feb. 20, at Silverman Restaurant, 36480 Plymouth Road, Allenton, Mich. All constituents of the 13th Congressional District are encouraged to drop in for a cup of coffee and discuss their concerns. For directions to her information, call Ann Arbor at (313) 421-0 or Wayne at (734) 722-1411.

COMEDY SHOW

The VFW No. 66 Ladies Auxiliary will host the "Totally Unrehearsed Comedy Show" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the VFW No. 6695 Hall, S. Mill St., Plymouth. Admission is \$12.50 per person, includes refreshments. For more information, call Tillie at 416-0518 or at 459-2394.

MARDI GRAS

A Mardi Gras celebration will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council. The event will feature a parade of floats, live music, and a gala evening at Hills Country Club. Choice of New Orleans creoles will be served. The traditional Street Trimmings feast will follow and be of distinctive art created by local artists. Exciting items donated by local businesses. Tickets will be conducted by fair and open house. Admission is \$11.00. Call DuMouchelle. The evening's music event will be provided by the New Reformation Band. Tickets for the Mardi Gras are \$11.00. Call the PCA at 416-4278.

CAMP FAIR
Come and meet directors of summer camps in Michigan to find the perfect camp for your children. Camps include resident, day, and sports camps and other summer programs. The annual Camp Fair will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at Ypsilanti High School, 2095 Packard Road, corner of Packard and Hewitt, Ypsilanti. Sponsored by Washtenaw Camp Placement Association. Free. For more information, call (734) 971-4537.

BLOOD PRESSURE
Blood pressure screenings are held at 1 p.m. every third Monday of the month at the Summit in Canton. No appointments are necessary, just check in at the Senior Desk in the Parkview Room. This free service is provided by the Senior Advantage Program of Beyer Hospital.

PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS
Free prescription drugs to middle-income seniors if you qualify will be available by appointment only at the Plymouth Township Hall Clerk's Office 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 455-7526.

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW
The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department is looking for crafters for its annual Spring Arts & Crafts Show. The show will be a one-day event and take place 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 4. The cost of an 8-foot table space is \$50. Admission and parking are both free. Interested crafters should call the City of Plymouth Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.

ST. MARY HOSPITAL
St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer an Infant and Child Immunization Program from 5:30-8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 23, in West Addition Conference Room B near the south entrance off Levan Road. Cost is \$5 per child no matter how many immunizations are given. For more information, call (313) 655-2922 or toll-free at 1-800-

SKATING STATION
Skating Station will hold open skating and winter break from Feb. 23-27. \$4.25 admission and \$2.00 rental.

RENTAL
Blue Spruce Trees
Ten free Colorado blue spruce trees will be given to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during February. The free trees are part of the nonprofit foundation's Trees for America campaign. The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge. To become a member of the foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, Neb. 68410, by Feb. 28.

GARDEN WALK
The Canton Garden Club wants to host its first garden walk this summer. Do you enjoy gardening with a passion and have created a "masterpiece" in your yard or have you done wonders in a specialty garden with herbs, roses, water features or shade? This is not a contest, but a way of finding those wonderful gardens within our community. If you think you'd enjoy being a part of the Canton Garden Club's first walk or future garden walks, send photos of your garden to: Donna McDonald, 7530 Chichester, Canton, Mich. 48187. Further information on the date and time of the Garden Walk will be featured at a later date. For more information, call (313) 455-8446.

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CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON



Educational travel: Susan Alonzo (right), a Canton resident and international business and economics major at Madonna University, discusses her upcoming trip to Japan with Jacqueeline Starvos, an assistant professor. Alonzo will use the May trip to complete her study abroad requirement for graduation.

494-1650.

St. Mary Hospital offers free weekly blood pressure screenings. Next screening will be held from noon to 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23, at the Northville Senior Center, 215 W. Cady, Northville. No registration is required. For more information, call the Community Outreach Department at (734) 655-2922 or toll-free at 1-800-494-1650.

The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia offers a child birth preparation class based on the Lamaze method that increases expectant parents' knowledge of the birth experience. A six-week session will be held from 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday through March 17, in West Addition Conference Room A. Cost of the class is \$55. Preregistration is required for this class. For more information, call (734) 655-1100 or toll-free at 1-800-494-1650.

A breastfeeding class is scheduled from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia, in the West Addition Conference Room A near the south entrance off Levan Road. This class is designed for expectant mothers between the seventh and eighth month of pregnancy. The class will focus on the benefits of breastfeeding for infant, mother and family. Instructors will demonstrate the many techniques of breastfeeding. Topics will include breastfeeding and the working mother, questions and concerns about breastfeeding, and review of breastfeeding pumps, helpful books and supplies. Cost of the class is \$15. Preregistration is requested, but mothers can register at the class. For more information or to register, call the Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1100 or toll-free at 1-800-494-1650.

MADONNA UNIVERSITY
Madonna University in Livonia will hold a Lenten Retreat titled "Finding God Wherever You Are" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the campus Residence Hall and Chapel. The Rev. Jack Loughran, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, will be the facilitator for this event. The cost for participating is \$12 and includes lunch and refreshments. For more information, call (734) 432-5711.

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WLAA wrestling

in more weight classes. The Mustangs scored in all but one of the 14 divisions, the Rocks 12. Northville also had eight wrestlers in the championship matches, Salem seven.

In addition, the Mustangs had three third-place finishers, one fourth and a fifth; the Rocks had two thirds and one each of fourth, sixth and seventh.

"We had guys step up," Northville coach Garnet Potter said. "Guys who did lose didn't get pinned; guys who should have won did."

"I can't think of a match we lost that we should have won, and that's the key to winning a tournament."

There were five repeat champions — Stevenson's Katsuhiko Sueda (112), Northville's Rick Torrence (119), Westland John Glenn's John Fedulchak (152) and Salem's Anwar Crutchfield (160) and Teono Wilson (169).

"Wilson is the only one of the five to win again at the same weight. The others competed one weight lower in 1997 except for Fedulchak, who was at 140 last year."

Northville's other champions are Ted Bowersox (275), Anwar Saran (125) and Reggie Torrence (130). Both Torrences won by pin in the finals.

"Those are extra points, too," Potter said, adding the Mustangs looked up the team title when 135-pound Chad Neumann finished in third place.

In a bout between unbeaten wrestlers, Saran won by technical fall over Walled Lake Central's Scott Aubry, 23-6, to push his record to 32-0.

Bowersox, who lost to Salem's Charlie Hamblin in the dual, 11-4, reversed that decision with a 2-1 victory in overtime.

With his team behind in the dual, Bowersox had to pin Hamblin. He was forced to be aggressive from the start and attempt all throws, according to Potter.

"He couldn't just wrestle; he

sold out for the team," he said. The rematch boiled down to a coin flip, Krueger said, adding Bowersox won the toss, chose the down position in overtime and was able to get an escape.

Salem's other winners were John Mervyn (103), Dan Hamblin (140) and James Greene (145). Also winning championships were Stevenson's Dan Seder (135), Walled Lake Western's Dan Thompson (171) and Farmington Harrison's Chris Gadjev (215).

"At 10 weights, we got good points and four we don't," Krueger said. "Northville got points at 13 weights. At nine weights, we can beat Northville when we wrestle head up."

Canton finishes 9th

So what's new? The tournament starts, and Plymouth Canton suffers yet another injury — and it comes to the Chiefs' top wrestler, Rob Demick, who had 25 match



Strong effort: Canton's Jared Chapman (right) lost to Northville's Mike Livanos, and eventually placed fifth.

WLAA WRESTLING RESULTS

WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSN. 1998 WRESTLING TOURNAMENT
Feb. 14 at Plymouth Salem

Team scores: 1. Northville, 249.5; 2. Plymouth Salem, 221.5; 3. Walled Lake Western, 196; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 145.5; 5. Walled Lake Central, 99; 6. Farmington, 93; 7. Westland John Glenn, 88.5; 8. Livonia Churchill, 83; 9. Plymouth Canton, 75; 10. Farmington Harrison, 65; 11. Livonia Franklin, 61; 12. North Farmington, 25.

275 pounds: Ted Bowersox (NV) defeated Charlie Hamblin (PS), 2-1 in overtime. Nick Wilson (WLV) pinned Paul Lipsey (WLC), 4-37; fifth: A.J. Maloni (PC), uncontested.

103 pounds: John Mervyn (PS) dec. Matt Targy (NV), 6-4; third: Joe Moreau (LS) dec. Brian Schweizer (WLV), 3-0; fifth: Dale Zarnick (WLC) pinned Lee Warren (LF), 3-21; seventh: Kyle Pitt (PC) dec. Matt Krueger (F), 7-0.

112 pounds: Katsuhiko Sueda (LS) by injury default over Rob Ash (WLC), 23-6; third: Kevin Arbutte (NV) dec. Jesse Purdon (JG), 12-4; fifth: Justin Shafer (FH) by injury default over Chris Hyttel (WLC), seventh: A.J. Lee (WLV) pinned Jason Farnsworth (PC), 2-53.

119 pounds: Rick Torrence (NV) pinned Chris Gons (LS), 0-59; third: Dan Morgan (PS) dec. Jon Taylor (FH), 15-1; fifth: Jeff Albrecht (JG) pinned Joe Martilla (WLC), 2-25; seventh: Nick Jasko (WLV) pinned Joe Seymour (F), 2-59.

125 pounds: Anwar Saran (NV) by technical fall over Scott Aubry (WLC), 23-6; third: John Henderson (PS) dec. Trevor Clarke (NF), 8-2; fifth: Derrick Smith (WLV) dec. Eric McMichael (JG), 8-0; seventh: Steve Vasileff (LC) dec. Chris Audette (F), 10-2.

130 pounds: Reggie Torrence (NV) pinned Josh Bagaly (WLV), 3-52; third: John O'Brien (WLC) dec. Derek Azopardi (LF), 4-2; fifth: Jon Pocock (PC) pinned Tony Lema (F), 4-30; seventh: Greg Petrovich (PS) dec. Justin Bass (JG), 11-7.

135 pounds: Dan Seder (LS) dec. Jerry Lema (F), 8-7; third: Chad Neumann (NV) dec. Sam Boyd (PS), 4-1; fifth: Jake Taylor (FH) dec. Geoff Ziran (WLV), 9-2; seventh: Ian Huff (WLC) dec. Chris Wolfgang (JG), 8-1.

140 pounds: Dan Hamblin (PS) dec. Dan Scapaticci (NV), 15-4; third: Imad Khurshid (LS) pinned Travis Moore (FH), 1-48; fifth: Brian Musser (PC) by injury default over Martin Spinks (F); seventh: Nick Lincoln (WLV) pinned Ryan Cannon (LC), 0-40.

145 pounds: James Greene (PS) dec. Jeff Brach (LS), 5-2; third: Ryan Shippett (LF) dec. Mike Carter (LC), 2-1 in double overtime; fifth: Sevan Sahiner (F) pinned Jim Shelton (PC), 3-23; seventh: Justin Alda (WLV) dec. Fritz Schuttes (NF), 11-7.

152 pounds: John Fedulchak (JG) by technical fall over Norm Wroblewski (WLV), 18-3; third: Brandon LaPointe (LC) pinned J.D. Ziarkowski (WLC), 4-54; fifth: Jason Dowdell (NV) dec. Eric Greene (PS), 12-2; seventh: Mark Ostach (F) dec. Sean Matuszak (NF), 12-10.

160 pounds: Anwar Crutchfield (PS) dec. Ryan McCracken (NV), 7-0; third: Brian Pancoszyn (LC) dec. Brian Barker (LS), 4-1; fifth: Dean Gozowsky (F) by injury default over Mark Funn (WLV); seventh: Brian Zaid (WLC) by injury default over Eric Toska (LF).

171 pounds: Dan Thompson (WLV) dec. Vinnie Asciore (LC), 7-2; third: John Demick (PC) pinned Ryan Giles (NV), 0-33; fifth: Steve Mysinski (LF) by default over Pete Langer (JG); seventh: Mike Radley (LS) dec. Ben Lukas (F), 6-5.

189 pounds: Teono Wilson (PS) dec. Bryan Grier (NV), 7-1; third: Tim Dziurzynski (WLV) dec. Andy Wood (F), 4-3; fifth: James Fowler (WLC) dec. Waleed Haddad (LS), 9-6; seventh: Mike Gaffke (LC), uncontested.

215 pounds: Chris Gadjev (FH) pinned Joe Higgins (WLC), 0-52; third: Mike Livanos (NV) dec. Tony Moreno (WLV), 14-6; fifth: Jared Chapman (PC) pinned George Tsoukalas (LS), 4-03; seventh: Kyle Domalagowski (F) pinned Mike Stein (NF), 4-14.

CEP hockey

administrators for their examination prior to the March 10 board meeting.

There seems to be little doubt the public favors bringing hockey to the schools. Last year, in the limited amount of time they had, the boosters still managed to collect more than 1,500 signatures in a petition drive.

At present, the plan is for both teams to play and practice at the Plymouth Cultural Center. As Arzo explained, for one thing it's on school property; for another, the Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association "is making ice time available for either high school," including both morning and afternoon practice times and Friday nights for games.

The March 10 date was not arbitrarily selected. Due to their enrollment, it seems certain Salem-Canton would both have to field teams by Michigan High School Athletic Association standards.

If the teams are to play in the Suburban High School Hockey League, an important part of the plan (all other local teams, including the three Livonia schools, Northville and both Walled Lake schools, are part of the league), the league must be notified with a letter of intent by mid-March.

"If this doesn't go through, it won't be from lack of preparation," vowed Arzo.

Shamrocks prove they're best in Catholic League

Even in a year when its dual meet record doesn't reflect it, the Redford Catholic Catholic wrestling team is still the class of the Catholic League.

The Shamrocks, who have a 7-13 record against one of the toughest schedules in the state, had four champions and finished with 109 points.

Host Birmingham Brother Rice was second (148.50), followed by Orchard Lake St. Mary's (143.50), Madison Heights Bishop Foley (110), Harper Woods Notre Dame (80) and Dearborn Divine Child (55).

Junior heavyweight Casey Rogowski remained undefeated in 38 matches and was named Most Valuable Wrestler

after beating St. Mary's Andrew Tip-pins, 9-2, in the finals.

CC coach Mike Rodriguez said Rogowski's chances of advancing far in the state tournament get better each week.

"Casey's going to beat a lot of people," Rodriguez said. "He has a heart of a champion, is a terrific athlete. You don't quit easy on yourself when you're an outstanding athlete."

Rogowski's sparring partner in practice, junior Broc Naysmith, won at 189 pounds. Naysmith, 32-2 overall, beat St. Mary's Andy McDonald, 13-2 in the finals.

"Broc and Casey beat each other up every day," Rodriguez said. "Neither one is that much bigger than the other. They come out even, split right down the middle."

Rodriguez said 130-pounder Ron Sarada provided the difference, winning his division with a pin over Phil Abejean in 1:28. The win was a pleasant surprise for the Shamrocks because Sarada had to beat Jeff Wheeler in practice two out of three matches just to get in the lineup.

"He sealed it for us," Rodriguez said.

"Jeff Wheeler's been beating Sarada until the last week. He hasn't been a regular."

"It makes a big difference when you pin the first-round through," Rodriguez said.

The Shamrocks' other individual champion was sophomore Mitch Hancock, who beat Rice's Jeremy Barrios, 12-7, to win at 135.

Hancock pinned three of the four opponents he faced.

Rodriguez was also pleased by the performance of captain Matt Petersen, who reached the finals at 170 pounds before losing to Rice's Kevin Herring-ton, 11-6.

It was only Petersen's fifth outing of the year as a shoulder injury has hampered his progress.

"He's a slick young man, a real true captain," Rodriguez said. "He made it all the way to the finals but couldn't get it out anymore."

The Shamrocks are favored to win today at Southfield Lathrup in the Division I team district.

They open with Southfield with the winner taking on Lathrup.

Rodriguez is encouraged by his team's progress, which includes a 50-45 loss last Thursday to one of the top teams in the state — Clarkston.

BEST BOYS SWIM TIMES

Following is a list of Observerland boys' best swimming times and diving scores. Coaches can report updates to Dan O'Meara by calling (313) 953-2141 or faxing the information to (313) 991-7279.	Nick Corden (Redford CC) 58.19 Brent Melis (Stevenson) 58.39 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 58.43	Redford Catholic Central 1:36.74 Dan Gabriel (N. Farmington) 55.23 Nick Sosnowski (Redford CC) 56.03
100 FREESTYLE	Nick Corden (Salem) 48.39 Keith Falk (Stevenson) 48.67 Ryan Meekins (Redford CC) 49.25	100 BACKSTROKE Dan Gabriel (N. Farmington) 55.23 Nick Sosnowski (Redford CC) 56.03 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 56.17
200 YARD MEDLEY RELAY	Steve Domin (Stevenson) 21.81 Andrew Locke (Salem) 22.44 Tim Buchanan (Salem) 22.95	200 FREESTYLE Keith Falk (Stevenson) 23.05 Dan Kelly (Salem) 23.10 Jacob Varty (Stevenson) 23.21
200 FREESTYLE	Keith Falk (Stevenson) 1:44.50 Nick Corden (Salem) 1:44.60 Ryan Meekins (Redford CC) 1:48.97	500 FREESTYLE Keith Falk (Stevenson) 4:48.79 Nick Sosnowski (Redford CC) 4:49.30 Steve Domin (Stevenson) 4:57.05
200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY	Steve Domin (Stevenson) 1:51.86 Matt Baran (Redford CC) 1:52.31 Jason Musson (Canton) 1:53.35	100 BUTTERFLY Steve Domin (Stevenson) 2:01.41 Mark Sgriccia (Stevenson) 53.79 Tim Buchanan (Salem) 54.73
400 FREESTYLE	Keith Falk (Stevenson) 2:01.73 Tim Buchanan (Salem) 2:01.41 Nick Sosnowski (Redford CC) 2:01.67	200 FREESTYLE RELAY Plymouth Canton 1:29.46 Livonia Stevenson 1:30.46 North Farmington 1:33.46
800 FREESTYLE	Keith Falk (Stevenson) 2:05.26 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 2:05.49 Steve Domin (Stevenson) 2:05.49	400 FREESTYLE RELAY Plymouth Canton 3:20.38 Livonia Stevenson 3:20.72 Redford Catholic Central 3:24.69
1600 FREESTYLE	Keith Falk (Stevenson) 2:05.73 James McPartlin (John Glenn) 2:07.44 Paul Perez (Salem) 56.34	800 FREESTYLE RELAY Plymouth Canton 3:31.99 Livonia Stevenson 3:30.82 North Farmington 3:30.82

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

The Charter Township of Canton will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk, first floor, Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, until 10:00 a.m., March 5, 1998 for the following:

Enclosed walkway to parking lot, Canton Place seniors apartments, 44505 Ford Road, Canton, Michigan

Proposed specifications are available in Financial Services Department, third floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road. There is a non-refundable ten dollar fee for project specifications and plans. This project is funded by Community Development Block Grant and is subject to federal Davis-Bacon and Equal Opportunity Clause requirements as specified in the bid document. Questions about the federal requirements may be directed to the Resource Development Division, (313) 397-5392. Late bids will not be accepted. Canton Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Canton Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Published February 19, 1998 TERRY BENNETT, Clerk

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the Canton Township March Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, call (734) 397-6831 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for appointments from February 23, 1998 thru February 27, 1998.

Tuesday March 3, 1998 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING ONLY 1:00 P.M.

HEARING DATES BY APPOINTMENTS

Monday	March 9, 1998	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	March 10, 1998	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday	March 10, 1998	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Saturday	March 14, 1998	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

You may call (734) 397-6831 for further information on the hearings, dates, and times.

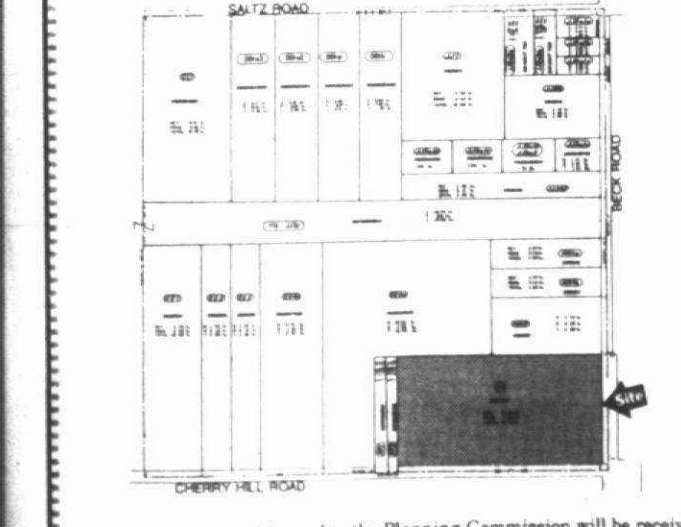
Published February 12, 15 and 19, 1998

CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 16, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

WILSON/PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT REZONING. CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 068 99 0009 000 FROM RR. RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R-2. SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the northwest corner of Cherry Hill and Beck Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Published February 19 and March 5, 1998

CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT (96-1)

(1) Consider request from Danny Veri, 4952 Dewitt, Canton, Michigan 48064 to amend:

Article 11, R-1 through R-5, Single Family Residential Districts, Section 11.02B, Permitted Uses and Structures — Special Land Uses, by creating subparagraph 15 to allow adding Single Family Attached Residential Units R-4 and R-5, subject to the provisions in Section 6.03 — Site Development Standards for Residential Districts;

Article 6, Site Development Standards Applicable to Specific Uses, Section 6.03, Site Development Standards for Residential Uses, by creating Subsection A1, defining the criteria for Single Family Attached Residential Requirements in R-4 and R-5;

(2) Township-initiated proposal to amend:

Article 5, Landscaping, Screening and Walls, Subsection 5.02, General Landscaping Requirements, Subsection 5.03, Specific Landscaping Requirements for Zoning Districts; and 5.04, Standards for Landscape Materials;

Article 18, C-4, Interchange Service District, Subsection 18.02B, Permitted Uses and Structures — Special Land Uses, by creating subparagraph 4 to allow adding Essential Services, subject to the provisions in Section 2.16, subsection A.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

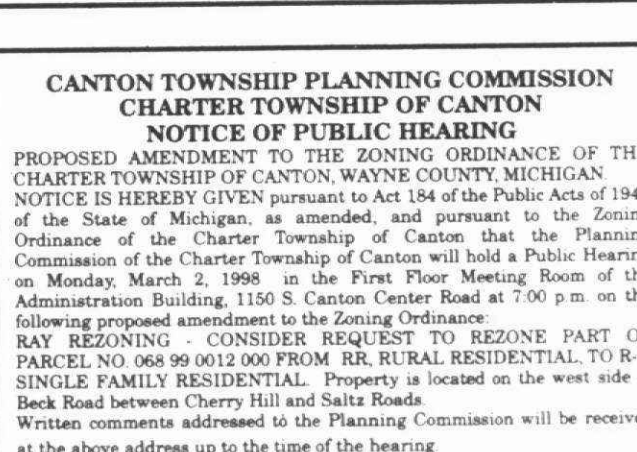
Published February 19 and March 5, 1998 VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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RAY ZONING. CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PART OF PARCEL NO. 068 99 0012 000 FROM RR. RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R-2. SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the west side of Beck Road between Cherry Hill and Salt Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Published February 5 and 19, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center St., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids up to 10:00 a.m., March 5, 1998 for the following:

PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF ONE (1) PICNIC SHELTER IN HERITAGE PARK

Bid specifications will be available on Thursday, February 19, 1997 at Pollack Design Associates, 229 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, Phone (313) 963-9022. Canton Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Published February 19, 1998 TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

1998 CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARINGS ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review for the City of Plymouth will convene in the City Commission chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 1998 at 12:00 Noon.

The Regular Board of Review session will begin:

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1998 12:15 TO 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1998 3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 1998 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY and must be submitted to the Front Office, located on the First Floor of City Hall before an appointment can be made. The "DEADLINE" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Wednesday, March 4, 1998 by 9:00 P.M.

A resident/non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative, an agent must have written authority to represent owner by Monday, March 16, 1997.

Copies of the notice stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the official public bulletin boards of the City and also in the local newspapers.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call (313) 455-1234 x 223.

MARK R. CHRISTIANSEN
City Assessor
City of Plymouth

Published February 19, 26 and March 1, 1998

COUNTY OF WAYNE PURCHASING DIVISION INVITATION FOR BIDS

1-275/FORD ROAD INTERCHANGE LANDSCAPING

Sealed bids for the construction of the 1-275/Ford Road Interchange Landscaping will be received by the Wayne County Purchasing Division, 600 Randolph Street - Room 148, Detroit, Michigan 48226, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, on Thursday, March 3, 1998, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. No FAXed or unsealed bids will be accepted.

Work includes removal of existing vegetation and installation of landscaping, restoration, and miscellaneous improvements described and detailed herein and the contract drawings. Work required for this project will be initiated no later than ten days after receiving notice of award of contract or on or before the date designated as the starting date in the Detailed Progress Schedule, whichever is later. Work required by these contract documents shall be completed not later than 153 calendar days from Notice To Proceed. Project shall be completed no later than August 31, 1998.

Plans and specifications may be secured by prospective bidders on or after 8:00 a.m. Local Time, February 9, 1998. Bid documents can be obtained at the Wayne County Purchasing Division, 600 Randolph Street - Room 148, Detroit, Michigan 48226. A fee of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) plus 6% Michigan Sales Tax or a total of Fifteen Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$15.90) will be charged for each set of plans and specifications furnished to the bidders. This fee shall be in the form of a check payable to the County of Wayne. No cash will be accepted. This fee will not be refunded. An additional fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) per set will be charged for mailing of plans and specifications.

Each bidder shall file a statement signed by or on behalf of the person, firm, association, or corporation submitting the bid, certifying that such person, firm, association, or corporation has not, either directly or indirectly entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action, in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the submitted bid.

Each sealed bid shall be accompanied by a Bid security in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) payable to the County of Wayne, Michigan. The Bid Bond shall be undrawn by a surety licensed to do business in the State of Michigan.

Bids will not be accepted after the time designated for the opening of the bids. The bidders shall assume full responsibility for delivery of bids prior to the appointed hour for opening same, and shall assume the risk of late delivery or non-delivery regardless of the manner employed for the transmission thereof.

Plans and specifications will also be on file at the Construction Association of Michigan, 1625 South Woodward - P.O. Box 3204, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302, the F.W. Dodge Division, McGraw-Hill Information Systems, 10 Oak Hollow - Suite 330, Southfield, Michigan 48064, the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, 25229 Dequindre, Madison Heights, Michigan 48071, and the Detroit Urban League, 208 Mack Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48201, and Booker T. Washington Association, 2885 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Michigan 48202.

Wayne County reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and waive irregularities in bids. The County of Wayne reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in bids. Bids submitted by Contractors who have been debarred, suspended or made ineligible by any Federal or State Agency will be rejected.

A pre-construction conference between the Contractor and Wayne County must be completed prior to the start of project construction to insure that the Contractor meets all federal, state and local regulations.

Construction shall be in accordance with MDOT 1996 Standard Specifications unless specified otherwise.

The Federal Highway Transportation program will partially fund this project. As a result, contractors and subcontractors are required to comply with Federal Labor Standard Provisions, Equal Opportunity Requirements and Davis-Bacon Wage Requirements. The prime contractor shall meet the requirements of MDOT prequalification classification 27H or I. Work by subcontractors shall not exceed 80% of the total contract.

WAYNE COUNTY PURCHASING DIVISION
Walter C. Beard, Director of Purchasing

Published February 15, 19 and 22, 1998

WINTER SPECIALS

A business built for all people, conceived by way of the truest meaning — "The American Dream."

THE BILLIARD CLUB

A business built for everyone regardless of race, religion or social stature. Let us take you back to the 1900's when the customer was considered both boss and family alike. You're invited to bring in a loved one or maybe even meet a new special someone in an atmosphere built just to do so.

FREE one hour of pool with purchase of first hour during same rental period. Not valid with other offers. Expires April 1, 1998.

FREE Lunch or Dinner with purchase of another meal or equal or greater value up to \$5.00. Not valid with other offers. Expires April 1, 1998.

6581 N. Wayne Rd. • Westland 467-1717
Open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

WINTER SPECIALS

Yard sale

14-hp 38-inch cutting width 1436ES Sabre Lawn Tractor \$1399*

John Deere LT133 13-hp 5-speed Lawn Tractor \$1999*

We've cut the cost of cutting grass. Without cutting corners. You still get the powerful engine, the ease of use, and the tight turning radius — everything you'd expect from John Deere. The only thing you don't get is a high price tag. So hurry, before the yard sale's over.

Nothing Runs Like A Deere®

http://www.deere.com P98G705

Commercial Lawnmower 34955 PLYMOUTH ROAD LIVONIA (734) 525-0980

Specializing in Commercial and Residential Lawn Care Equipment

HOURS: MON-FRI 8-7 • SAT 9-4

*Subject to approved credit. Monthly payments based on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan. For non-commercial use only. Taxes, freight, setup, and delivery charges could increase monthly payment. Other special rates and terms may be available, including installation financing and financing for commercial use. Available at participating dealers.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Soccer sign-up

The Canton Soccer Club will have a special registration for the spring season from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at on the bottom floor of Canton's Township Hall, located at 1150 S. Canton Center.

The sign-up will be for girls teams, under-10, under-11 and under-12.

For more information, call (734) 455-9946.

Hockey champs

The Livonia Pee Wee AA Knights, coached by Jim Boloven, earned its second straight berth in the state tournament in as many years with a 3-1 win Monday over the Lakeland Hawks at Edgar Arena.

Led by tournament MVP Tony Perraino, the Knights also defeated the Hawks (2-1), Livingston Lightning (6-1) and Plymouth Spawn (3-0).

Other members of the Knights include: Adam Bierly, Tommy Boloven, Justin Dunn, J.T. Katikos, Adam Miller, Roger Moody, Steve Nelson, Jacob Norwood, Jason Price, Chris Ryan, Scott Sparks, Kyle Susewitz, Ryan Vandette and Brett Veasey.

Assistant coaches include Jim Kroetsch, Ted Katikos, Curt Downs, Dave Susewitz and Emil Sparks. The team manager is Craig Dunn.

AAU boys hoops

Boys AAU basketball tryouts for ages 13-and-under will be from 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, and Thursday, March 5, at East Middle School in Plymouth.

Participants must be born on or after Sept. 1, 1984. Players who are seventh-graders and born on or after Sept. 1, 1983, are also eligible.

For more information, call Bob

de Bear at (313) 459-0543.

Adult softball

Informational meetings for the upcoming Canton Parks and Recreation-sponsored adult softball season are set for Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Summit on the Park Community Center, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

The men's meeting will be at 10 a.m.; the women's will follow at 10:30 a.m., with the co-ed meeting at 11 a.m. Topics to be discussed are league registration fees and dates, schedules, residency rules and league set-up.

For further information, call (734) 397-5110.

Soccer referees

A class for new soccer referees will be held on four consecutive Saturdays, beginning Feb. 21, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center's Card Meeting Room.

Cost for the class, which runs through March 14 and is open to men and women 12 years old to adult, is \$43 per person. To register, call Brian LaMasse at (313) 397-8325.

Softball clinic

A fast-pitch softball hitting clinic for girls in grades 4-8 will be conducted from noon-5 p.m. at Livonia Ladywood HS Feb. 22.

Cost is \$25 per player. Parents and coaches may attend for free. Included will be instruction on hitting and bunting, and a variety of different training methods and workouts.

The clinic is limited to the first 50 athletes. Checks and registration forms should be mailed to: Sal Malek, athletic director; Livonia Ladywood HS; 14680 Newburgh; Livonia, MI, 48154.

Registration deadline is Mon-

day. Call Ladywood HS at (734) 591-2323 for further information.

Football tryouts

The Wayne County Twisters football organization will have a pro-style combine for all those interested in playing football at the semi-pro level. Candidates must be at least 18 years old and in excellent physical condition.

Cost is \$20, payable at the time of the tryout. There will be two tryouts: 2 p.m. Feb. 28 and 2

p.m. March 7, both at the Wayne-Westland YMCA, located at 827 S. Wayne in Westland.

To pre-register, call any of the following numbers: (734) 981-7141; (313) 359-3457; (313) 513-8204.

Senior swimming

A swimming stroke clinic for adults 50-years and over will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday through March 21 at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus pool (off

Orchard Lake south of I-696).

Cost is \$2 per session. A review of stroke mechanics and basic technique of all four strokes will be presented, with in-water demonstrations and video presentations.

For more information, contact Carrie Montcalm at (248) 608-0265 or Skip Thompson at (248) 683-2191.

Hoop shoot-out

The Milford Police Athletic League will sponsor its seventh-

annual 3-on-3 Junior Shootout, open to boys and girls in grades 4-12, on March 20-22.

Entry fee is \$60 per team. There will also be a special "shootout" in each division to win a pair of \$100 Converse basketball shoes.

For more information, call Rick Sharpe at (248) 684-1322.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may FAX them to (313) 591-7279.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED
STARKWEATHER HISTORIC DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth's Historic District Commission will be holding a Public Hearing.

The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 1998 at the City of Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth, Michigan.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the proposed creation of the "Starkweather Historic District". This meeting is being scheduled pursuant to Michigan Public Act 169 of 1970, as amended.

Information regarding the Starkweather Historic District may be reviewed at City of Plymouth Building Department at 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, (734) 453-1234 x 232.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Carol Stone, ADA Coordinator
210 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 452-1234, ext. 206

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Published: February 12 & February 19, 1998

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
NOTICE OF HEARING
ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 453-3840, Ext. 267, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 3	9 a.m. - Noon 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Organization Meeting Hearings by Appointment
Monday, March 9	2 p.m. - 5 p.m. 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Tuesday, March 10	9 a.m. - Noon 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 14	9 a.m. - 11 a.m.	First Come - First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 14, 1998.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Published: February 12, 15 and 19, 1998

1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS
NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARINGCharter Township of Plymouth
Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Plymouth, pursuant to P.A. 1954, No. 188 (MCLA 41.721 et seq.) does hereby tentatively declare its determination to initiate a road improvement project for the construction, improvement and maintenance of the following described road area:

The project commences at the north right-of-way line of Ann Arbor Road and proceeds northerly along Ridge Road to the southerly right-of-way line of Powell Road.

That further, such road improvement project shall be undertaken in accordance with a contract with the County of Wayne whereby the County of Wayne shall contribute Eighty (80%) percent of the project costs, and the Charter Township of Plymouth shall contribute Twenty (20%) of the project costs and the Township is creating a Special Assessment District for the recovery of its Twenty (20%) percent share by a Special Assessment District against the properties benefited therein.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth has tentatively declared its intention to make the hereinafter described improvement:

The project consists of approximately 3,600 feet of existing gravel road along Ridge Road from Ann Arbor Road to Powell Road to be paved with bituminous concrete, consistent with Ridge Road north of Powell Road and Powell Road between Ridge and Beck. The project commences at the north right-of-way line of Ann Arbor Road and proceeds northerly along Ridge Road to the southerly right-of-way line of Powell Road.

That is has further been tentatively determined that the following described lots and parcels of land will specially benefit from said improvement and will constitute a Special Assessment District against which the cost of said improvement shall be assessed.

The district limit for frontage consists of parcels with Tax ID Number 045-99-0001-000 (A1a), 045-99-0002-000 (A1b), 045-99-0005-001 (B1), 045-99-0005-002 (B2), 045-99-0005-003 (B3), 045-99-0008-000 (D1b), 045-99-0009-702 (D3b,E1b,Q2b) located in the northeast ¼ of Section 31, and 048-99-0009-000 (Q1a1a,BB1a), 048-99-0010-000 (Q1a1b,BB1b), 048-99-0011-000 (Q1a2,BB2), 048-99-0012-000 (Q1b), 048-99-0014-000 (S1a), 048-99-0015-000 (S1b,S2) located in the southeast ¼ of Section 31. The district also includes Lot 227 through Lot 295, inclusive, of Ridgewood Hills Subdivision Number 3 as recorded in Liber 101 Page 29 to 32, Lot 306 through Lots 319, inclusive, of Ridgewood Hills Subdivision Number 4 as recorded in Liber 102, Page 1 to 3, and Lots 1 through 33, inclusive, of Pine Ridge Estates Subdivision as recorded in Liber 104 page 44 to 47, of T.1S., R.8E., of Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth shall meet on February 24, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall in the Township of Plymouth located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 for the purpose of reviewing said proposed Special Assessment District, and hearing objections to the improvement, creation of the Special Assessment District, and the Assessment thereon. All persons may then and there appear and make any objections they may have to such improvement and assessment. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount, if any, of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. An owner or party in interest or agent thereof, may appear in person at the hearing, or may file an appearance of protest by letter. All parties or agents appearing in person at the hearing for purposes of protest should request the appearance be entered into the record of the meeting.

The improvement shall not be made without Petition of the property owners within the proposed District, if the record owners of land constituting more than Twenty (20%) of the total road frontage of this proposed road improvement district file their written objections to the Township Board of Trustees at or before this Public Hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that plans, specifications, and estimates of cost of the engineer for said proposed Special Assessment District have been filed with the Township and are available for public examination at the office of the Township Clerk. The estimate of costs of such construction is in the approximate amount of \$120,000.00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that periodic redetermination of costs for the proposed Special Assessment District may be necessary and may be made without further notice to the record owners or parties in interest in the property.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, Clerk
Charter Township of Plymouth
42350 Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
(734) 453-3840, Ext. 224

Published: February 12 and 19, 1998



Announcing the birth of an entirely new way to connect to the Net. It's called MediaOne Express. We use Broadband, a technology that has nothing to do with your phone line. Our Broadband network lets you download from the Net 50 times faster than 28.8. OK, so what will 50 times faster mean to this new generation? Well, today it means they can download an entire encyclopedia in just 60 seconds, instead of the 50 minutes it used to take through your ordinary old phone line. Tomorrow they'll use it to discover, to invent, to do amazing, fantastic things that will make their parents proud and happy they connected their home to this great technology of the future. MediaOne Express. This is Broadband. This is the way.

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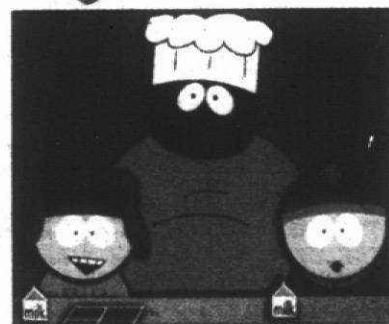
THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Get a double dose of jazz artistry when legendary jazz pianist Chick Corea and vibes master Gary Burton team up for a concert 8 p.m. in the Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Tickets \$30 to \$20, (734) 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

SATURDAY

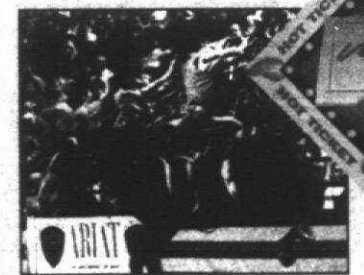


A special "South Park" video will be shown during Comedy Central's "Stand-Up For Sanity" which also features comedians Jon Stewart and Reggie McFadden, 7 p.m. at the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$8 in advance for the all-ages show. Call (313) 833-9700 or <http://www.99music.com>

SUNDAY



Dance Theatre of Harlem performs 3 p.m. at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. Range from \$31.50 to \$41.50, call (313) 963-2366, or (248) 645-6666.



Hot Tip: The Longhorn World Championship Rodeo comes to The Palace of Auburn Hills Friday, Feb. 20 through Sunday, Feb. 22. Tickets \$18, \$14 and \$12, call (248) 645-6666. Tommie Fagan of Livonia is among the cowboys competing in the steer wrestling competition.



LIFE MIRRORS 'UNBEATABLE' STORY LINE

STORY BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN • STAFF WRITER

Gordon Michaels is a lot like the lead character he plays in the film "Unbeatable Harold"—determined against all odds to bring the story to the big screen.

Michaels sat in the Caribou Coffee Shop in Royal Oak undaunted by the lack of funds necessary to produce his film. Michaels was here visiting his mother, Elvira Karmineke, in Westland before leaving for Reno, Nev., to shoot the film.

"I like comedy," said Michaels, who's also directing and producing the film. "There's so many action and shoot-em-up movies out there so why not focus on a love story and throw in a dance number and some slapstick."

A graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland, Michaels wrote the screenplay for "Unbeatable Harold" after a one-act play by Randy Noojin. Michaels originated the role of the Elvis wannabe Off-Broadway. Bringing the play to film marks a nine year commitment for Michaels, who's also acted the part on Los Angeles and Miami stages.

"Unbeatable Harold" is about a dreamer and hopeless romantic, living 20 years behind the times in 1970s clothes and platform shoes, who's fallen in love with Wanda (Christine Cavanaugh, the voice of "Babe" the pig), said Michaels. "It's your boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy finds girl and lives happily ever after."

Filming is complete except for a few scenes postponed until March because Dylan McDermott's shooting schedule for the popular ABC-TV show "The Practice" conflicted with filming "Unbeatable Harold." McDermott plays Wanda's ex-boyfriend. Michaels has appeared in several episodes of "The Practice" with McDermott and is currently in negotiations to extend his part in the show.

"Dylan's a friend, it's a favor for him to do the film," explained Michaels. "His salary would equal half our budget."

Although this is Michaels first attempt at directing, he's no stranger to the screen, having acted in films such as "Air Force One" with Harrison Ford, "Jurassic Park: The Lost World" directed by Steven Spielberg, "Leaving Las Vegas," "Destiny Turns on the Radio" and "Hacks" with Tom Arnold and John Ritter.

"I have such a vested interest, I couldn't let someone else direct," said Michaels. "Maybe if it were

another play, but not this one."

Elvira Karmineke had no hint her son would eventually choose a career in film and theater. He wanted to be a chiropractor. So it was only natural she worried when Gordon told her about applying to the Neighborhood Playhouse until learning of the school's prestigious reputation. When she saw him perform on the stage of the New York playhouse, Karmineke realized the talent which lay buried all those years.

"He was very funny when he was a child, but I never had any idea even though he played in the band and he could sing," said Karmineke. "When I saw him in the play, I couldn't believe this was my son. It was beautiful."

Michaels never let on to his mother, but by the time he was playing varsity basketball at John Glenn High School, and even before injuring a knee, the bright lights were his future. After graduating from the Westland high school, Michaels moved to Arizona in 1981 where he attended acting school in Phoenix before moving to New York.

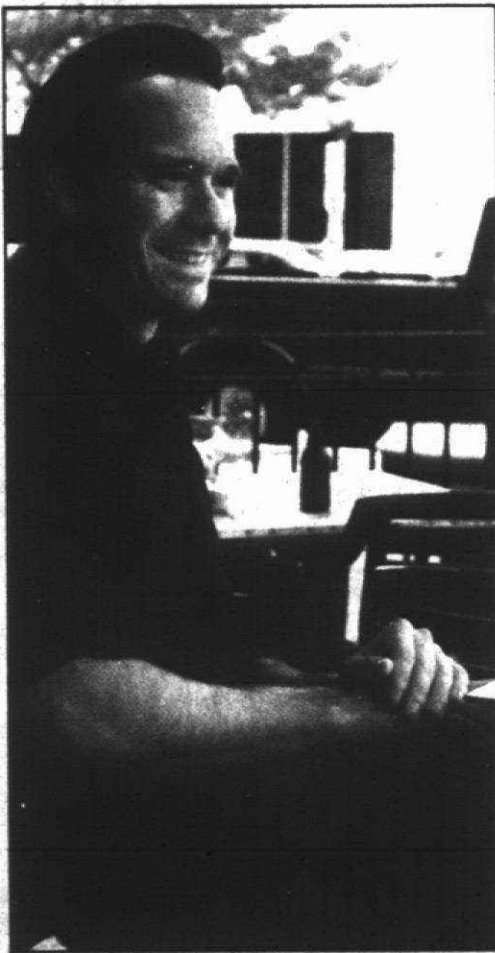
"It really hit me when I was a junior," said Michaels. "I always sang in choir at school and was in rock bands in high school (Flash Experience)."

Even though the theater in New York holds special memories for Michaels, that's where he acted in his first production, "Pippin," he eventually left in search of golden opportunities in California's film industry. For the last eight years he's lived in Venice on the Beach.

"I wanted to get involved with film so I had to move to LA," said Michaels. "To make some money you have to go into film. I didn't want to be a struggling actor in theater."

Michaels is planning to premiere "Unbeatable Harold" in early summer at either the Royal Oak or Birmingham theaters. Although far from home now, Michaels visits Michigan often and has no plans to write the state out of his life. In fact, he plans someday to produce in Detroit a one-act play written in New York.

"Because I'm from Detroit, I thought it would be nice to bring the premiere of 'Unbeatable Harold' here," said Michaels. "Even though I don't miss the Michigan winters and scraping two inches of ice off the windshields, I do miss the Michigan summers and my family."



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGFIELD

Unbeatable love story: Gordon Michaels writes, directs, produces, and acts in a film about an Elvis wannabe and the girl of his dreams.

Local talent line up for place to 'Rent'

BY JULIE YOLLES
SPECIAL WRITER

They came from Miami, Cincinnati, Windsor, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, Detroit and the suburbs. They wore black leather, black spandex, black cords, black velvet, black polyester, black jeans, black fishnets, black chennille, Kenneth Cole belts and chunky silver ball necklaces. They were sporting Doc Martens and Spice Girl platforms from beneath their used Levi 571 bell bottoms. They had pierced ears, navels and tongues. They wore Hard Candy Superman blue metallic nail polish, MAC Alumina lipstick and glitter eye makeup. It was East Village retro all around.

What seemed more like a precursor to a fashion shoot for the Salvation Army on the streets of Royal Oak, was really 700 hopefuls looking for a new lease on life. Or just looking to "Rent."

When the rock opera "Rent" comes to the Fisher Theatre April 8 to May 31, perhaps one or more of these 700 aspiring actors will be a part of the ensemble. That's what the production team of "Rent" was hoping for when they scheduled a one-day open casting call at the Detroit Opera House Thursday, Jan. 22.

"We're seeking authentic kick-ass singers in Detroit because we heard it's the most rockin', hip-hoppin', stompin', soul-searchin' city in the country," stated the casting notice, which was blanketed throughout the state and outlying areas.

And rockin', hip-hoppin', stompin' and soul-searchin' is what they got—starting at 7:15 a.m., on that 18-degree morning, when the line started forming on Detroit's Madison Avenue outside the theater. Auditions started at 10 a.m. and didn't wrap until 12-1/2 hours later—long after Cathy Rigby and her "Peter Pan" cast, who were performing that night at the Detroit Opera House, had gone off to never-never land.

Natalie Ross, a senior at Churchill High School in Livonia, skipped school to audition. She signed in at 9 a.m. and finally got to sing at 12:30 p.m. for Heidi Marshall, casting director of New York's Bernard Telsey Casting. Ross made the first cut, learned a song from the show with a piano accompanist and sang four hours later for Marshall at the callbacks.

"I always wear black pants to auditions—they're universal, sexy and flattering," said Ross, who saw "Rent" on Broadway and heard about the casting call from her friend at Western Michigan University. "I wore the orange shirt to be seen."

The desires were intense. The competition fierce. Nothing was going to deter the hordes of twenty-somethings from auditioning. Practically the entire University of Michigan Musical

Please see RENT, E2

Rent

When: Show opens Wednesday, April 8, and continues through Sunday, May 31.

Where: Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit.

Tickets: Range in price from \$60 to \$24, call (248) 645-6666.

COLLEGE THEATER

Stratford director: Antoni Cimolino of the Stratford Festival is the guest director for the Hilberry's production of "A Woman of No Importance."

Director gives heart to 'A Woman of No Importance'

"Children begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them. Rarely, if ever, do they forgive them."

— Oscar Wilde

"A Woman of No Importance"

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Irish playwright Oscar Wilde was the master of the epigram, the bon mot, the pithy, sardonic phrase.

Many of these epigrams have become a part of the language, noted for their rueful truths or their outrageousness. But to produce an Oscar Wilde play, you have to make the epigrams seem natural even though Wilde himself admitted he never let a story get in the way of a good epigram.

A Woman of No Importance

What: Oscar Wilde comedy-drama.
Where: Hilberry Theatre on the campus of Wayne State University, Detroit.
When: In repertory through Thursday, April 23.
Tickets: Range in price from \$10 to \$17. Call the box office, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday at (313) 577-2972

Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre has recruited Ontario director Antoni Cimolino, associate producer of the Stratford Festival, to bring life to one of Wilde's more difficult works, a play that begins as a comedy of manners and develops into

a soul-wrenching melodrama. Cimolino, 36, wants to emphasize Wilde's big heart.

"He said his talent went into his writing, but his genius went into his life," Cimolino said. "I'm interested in what's underneath. He's very humane and caring about people. He was a socialist, but I think that was just lip service. He was really a humanist. His interest wasn't in economics but in the soul."

"A Woman of No Importance," is set in the late 1800s among the aristocrats of England. A promising young man has been offered the position of secretary to the pleasure-loving, snobbish Lord Illingworth.

Please see WOMAN, E2



Divided family: Standing, Wendy Gough as Mrs. Arbuthnot and Bret Tuomi as Lord Illingworth are the parents of the devaluated Devald played by Matt Troyer, kneeling.

Rent from page E1

Theatre Department came out for the auditions - many having pulled an all-nighter at Kinko's, copying sheet music and prepping "Rent" songs - in case they made it to callbacks.

Heather Bell and Jamie Richards, who perform at St. Dunstan's Guild of Cranbrook and Nancy Gurwin community theaters, among others, came prepared for a long day of waiting. In the massive gymnasium-like registration room, they were basking on couches with Peppercorn Farm chocolate chunk cookies, Ritz Bits and Nutter Butters. Others imbibed on Gatorade, Diet Coke or water. Or munched on pretzels, apples, Einstein Bagels, potato chips, oranges and Schlotzky's Deli food from around the corner. Natalie Ross never goes anywhere without Kleenex and Ricola lemon mint lozenges.

When Hilary Hernandez

arrived at 7:30 a.m., she was 21st in line. The senior at Lake Orion High School also skipped class to be there. "But it's OK, because I've got really good attendance," she quickly chimed in.

With her Mariah Carey audition song firmly ensconced, Hernandez gave her just-met friend a 1989 penny, in keeping with their newfound tradition. With his guitar in hand, Dixon belted out "Ziggy Stardust" by David Bowie.

"Do you know 'Amazing Grace'?" Heidi Marshall asked the baritone from behind her rectangular table in the third floor rehearsal room. "If not, just make up the words. Or, you could just sing 'Happy Birthday.' But sing full out. I want to hear your range." The thing that's important is to hit that high "C."

Dixon did just that, in his olive green Detroit Technology T-shirt, jeans and tennis shoes - and with more than his lucky penny. For starters, there was his

BEHIND THE SCENES

African necklace with the gold beads and black leather strips that a fellow actor passed on to him years ago when they were shooting a local film together. On his left wrist, he wore a weathered leather bracelet with seven white seashells that he got in seventh grade.

"It reminds me of my sister who gave it to me," said the 22-year-old Oakland University Shakespeare Sonnet Competition runner-up. "And if she hadn't loaned me her car, I wouldn't be here today."

While actors were doing group vocal warm-ups with Royal Oak musician Luis Resto at the piano in the main room, others were singing solo in the stairwells and bathroom stalls. They sang a

cappella. They sang with their "Rent" tapes and Walkmans. Sopranos, mezzos and more than three tenors.

Meanwhile, back in the third floor rehearsal room, beneath the ornate crystal chandelier, Marshall was taking copious notes. "Not sexy for the character" Roger... not quirky for the role of Mark... too squeamish... too young... too conservative... too legit... not of the 'Rent' world...

"Kill the vibrato. It should come from an easy, relaxed place in your gut," she directed one nervous actor in a reverse baseball bat. "It's all about the text."

The text earned "Rent" composer and playwright Jonathan Larson a Pulitzer Prize, just 20 days before "Rent" opened on Broadway April 29, 1996.

Though Karen Newman of Franklin - the "Red Wings Own National Anthem Singer" - was

in the 1980s and that 50 years literally meant the difference between life and death, Cimolino said. "But both had an affinity for women, they wrote wonderful woman characters and both really liked women."

Cimolino is the son of Italian immigrants who grew up in Sudbury, Ontario, and graduated from the University of Windsor. He has performed as an actor at Stratford but over the last few years has moved into administrative work and directing. As associate producer he handles rehearsal and performance schedules and special projects.

His wife, Brigit Wilson, is an actress and they have two children, a son, Gabriel, 4, and daughter, Sophia, 2.

"Sweet Charity," the story of a dance hall hostess who wore her

heart on her sleeve and a tattoo, comes to life with optimism and a heavy dose of Bob Fosse style and attitude.

Charity Hope Valentine is part incurable romantic, part co-dependent. An optimist despite her life's hard knocks, she still believes she'll find true love. She usually finds it in the wrong men, and makes the most of relationships that are doomed from the start.

After being dumped into a river and robbed by her almost-fiancee (still a married man), Charity has an almost fling with a film star before connecting with a neurotic accountant she

was trapped with in an elevator. Oscar dubs her Sweet Charity, and sets her dreaming of a life away from the Fan-Dango Ballroom.

Emily Raymond of Farmington is the quintessential Charity - sweet, optimistic, kooky, and a blind optimist. She maintains an upbeat spirit throughout the play, and her energy never wags. She captures the audience with her smile and wins them over with, "If My Friends Could See Me Now."

Director Jamie Richards and producer Ed Cox have taken a 1960s theme and have a lot of

fun with it. Discotheque lighting, the fashions, and the show, reinforcing Charity's personal turmoil with the moral chaos of the decade.

The scene from the "Rhythm of Life Church" is like a scene out of "Tommy," complete with a con artist, preacher, Daddy Brubeck played with a delicious wickedness by Tony Lawry of Garden City.

The choreography is stunning, and pays tribute to the attitude and style of Bob Fosse, the show's original Broadway choreographer. The moves are sexy and provocative without being overt. Paired with the striking lighting design, the show deftly captures the strong moods and raw sensuality of the show.

Charity's hard-edged dance hall friends Nickie and Helene, played by Heather Bell of Royal Oak and Tami Ann Mough of Walled Lake, were strong vocal assets to the show, and wowed the house with the duet, "Baby, Dream Your Dream." Julie Newcombe of Farmington Hills, as Ursula, epitomizes the blonde bombshell with her stunning presence.

Jim Meade plays all three of Charity's romantic interests, skillfully changing from a silent thug, to a Italian-accented movie star, to a boy-next-door type. Meade excelled in all three roles with his captivating charm and the audience's applause. Having one actor play all three of Charity's love interests is an interesting twist, since all are alike in that they leave her high and dry without the love she so desperately craves. Though different personalities, they all trample her heart, and leave her alone to bravely start her search once more.

of Evelyn Orbach, the entire cast delivers flawless, deeply affecting performances.

Manfredi and Grossman are especially well-cast as head-on antagonists.

Christopher Carothers' set and Edith Leavis Bookstein's costumes add to the production's polish. Rita Girardi's fine lighting needs only more impact at the end of each act.

Overall, "Taking Sides" is one of the most thought-provoking plays in contemporary theatre. JET's outstanding production should not be missed.

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Meadow Brook's risqué farce spotlights crackerjack cast

"What the Butler Saw," by Joe Orton at Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills continues through March 8. Tickets range from \$22 to \$32, call (248) 377-3300. BY FRANK PROVENZANO STAFF WRITER

The word got out before the curtain rose. Meadow Brook Theatre's "What the Butler Saw" would be risqué and challenging to whomever clutches to conservative aesthetics.

Even prior to opening night, some of the more traditional theatregoers registered their vehement disapproval. Artistic Director Geoffrey Sherman received a handful of hate letters for simply selecting the play.

Ah, yes. Theater can provide a foil to prod the masses from their slumber.

Apparently, the mere thought of salty dialogue and nudity was too much for those who expect a university theater to perform the classics, and occasionally offer a wink to contemporary realities.

Well, in a step toward reinventing Meadow Brook as a place of vital and vigorous contemporary theater, "What the Butler Saw" is a promising start.

Joe Orton's play about a lecherous psychiatrist, a suspicious wife, mistaken identities and

embarrassing disclosures has the high-paced plotting and frenetic pace of farcical drama in the British tradition.

Throw in an irreverent references to religion, psychiatry and Winston Churchill's private parts, and there's plenty of disrespect to go around.

The high-energy play showcases the comedic timing of a crackerjack cast.

In the genre of farce, pacing is crucial. The audience can't be given too much time to realize the absurdity and irrational predicaments before them.

Any weak link in the cast will inevitably have a domino effect in slowing down the play. In "What the Butler Saw," there are no weak links.

Bruce Burkhardtmeier, Carey Crim, Raul E. Esparza, Mark Rademacher and John Seibert fill every nuance from a script riddled with irreverence, absurdities and biting humor.

Perhaps Esparza, the morally maligned bell-hop and cross-dresser, pulls off the combination of comedic timing, and physical comedy in the finest spotlight.

"What the Butler Saw" premiered in 1969. It's considered Orton's best play. In a chilling footnote to Orton's promising talent, the playwright was murdered shortly before the play opened nearly 30 years ago.

Orton's penchant for witticisms have drawn comparisons to Oscar Wilde.

For instance, he observes the reason a person would pursue a career in psychiatry: "Having failed to achieve madness for himself, he took to teaching it to others."

And, in noting the advice to a guilty man wondering what to say: "You're guilty, you don't say anything. Only the innocent have something to explain."

Fans of "Seinfeld" will not be disappointed. Nor will viewers of slapstick, or the farcical episodes of "I Love Lucy," "Three's Company," or other flippant sit-coms.

But clearly, "What the Butler Saw" isn't Lucy, Desi, Ethel and Fred. Nor is it Jerry, George, Elaine and Kramer.

In "What the Butler Saw," the wants of the characters are bulging along with their hormones. The acid barbs would never be heard in prime time.

Yet Meadow Brook's production is a reminder of how long audiences will keep attentive for a play about sex and the promise of nudity - however brief, very brief.

No need for further rationalizing. If this play is offensive, then you've never watched FOX.

Sometimes a laugh is just a laugh.



Comedy: Diana Van Fossen and Raul E. Esparza are featured in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of Joe Orton's outrageous comedy "What the Butler Saw."

Woman from page E1

It turns out that his lordship is actually the young man's father who abandoned his mother before the young man was born. She now calls herself Mrs. Arbuthnot and begs with her son not to accept the position. Meanwhile, the young man is in love with an American woman who represents all the puritanism, naivety and idealism of America.

Cimolino is working with a young graduate school company who must master the problems of playing older, playing English and balancing comedy with melodrama.

"This is an educational institution. I have a dual responsibility to the audience and equally to the actors," Cimolino said. "We make sure along the way we are all learning something. Also, we

have to look at what will pay off for the audience."

For Matt Troyer, who plays the son, Gerald, Wilde's language is the biggest challenge.

"Wilde uses wonderfully elevated English text," Troyer said. "He's well known for his epigrams, several of them from this show. But it's not unlike Shakespeare, you've got to bring out the language."

Unlike other company members, Troyer will not be playing beyond his years.

"When we're trying to act 40 or 45, we have to project what that's like. But when I'm playing a 20-year-old, I say, 'Hey, I've been there,'" he said.

Troyer came away with a new respect for Wilde, a controversial figure who was sentenced to two-

years of hard labor on sodomy charges.

"It's eerie how this play predicts the suffering he would go through. I have a better appreciation for the man. He's not just witty, but he has this darker side," Troyer said.

Sara Wolf of Rochester Hills plays the young American woman, Hester, whom she says moves from Old Testament to New Testament in her judgments of people.

"The way I see her she's very young," Wolf said. "I was just her age a couple years ago. I remember how idealistic I was, my ideas would change the world."

Wolf said her character has an opinion about everything, an empathy for the middle and lower classes and stands for both

the best and worst that Wilde saw in America.

Wolf doesn't have to master an English accent, but she does have to adopt a different voice.

"I'm trying to use standard American dialect and trying to weed out my Michiganisms. I'm trying to make the words beautiful without making them melodramatic," she said.

Cimolino said the play can be directed in many ways. The witty epigrams and high style of Lord Illingworth and his set can seem quite attractive opposed to the moralistic ideas of the other characters.

"You have to choose where you're going and where you're going to put the weight," Cimolino said. "You could make this really evil. ... You could make all

the good people dislikable and make the bad people interesting."

He said that oddly it is Lord Illingworth who represents Wilde, himself, in the play.

"The point of the play is that in the end, he's made to hurt," he said. "It's very weird that he teaches himself this lesson."

Cimolino said he has been working with the cast since December to get the tone just right.

This summer he will be taking on a very different kind of writer when he directs Tennessee Williams' "Night of the Iguana" at Stratford.

"Both were homosexual, or bisexual in Wilde's case. But one wrote in the 1940s and the other

in the 1980s and that 50 years literally meant the difference between life and death," Cimolino said. "But both had an affinity for women, they wrote wonderful woman characters and both really liked women."

Cimolino is the son of Italian immigrants who grew up in Sudbury, Ontario, and graduated from the University of Windsor. He has performed as an actor at Stratford but over the last few years has moved into administrative work and directing. As associate producer he handles rehearsal and performance schedules and special projects.

His wife, Brigit Wilson, is an actress and they have two children, a son, Gabriel, 4, and daughter, Sophia, 2.

"Sweet Charity," the story of a dance hall hostess who wore her

heart on her sleeve and a tattoo, comes to life with optimism and a heavy dose of Bob Fosse style and attitude.

Charity Hope Valentine is part incurable romantic, part co-dependent. An optimist despite her life's hard knocks, she still believes she'll find true love. She usually finds it in the wrong men, and makes the most of relationships that are doomed from the start.

After being dumped into a river and robbed by her almost-fiancee (still a married man), Charity has an almost fling with a film star before connecting with a neurotic accountant she

was trapped with in an elevator. Oscar dubs her Sweet Charity, and sets her dreaming of a life away from the Fan-Dango Ballroom.

Emily Raymond of Farmington is the quintessential Charity - sweet, optimistic, kooky, and a blind optimist. She maintains an upbeat spirit throughout the play, and her energy never wags. She captures the audience with her smile and wins them over with, "If My Friends Could See Me Now."

Director Jamie Richards and producer Ed Cox have taken a 1960s theme and have a lot of

fun with it. Discotheque lighting, the fashions, and the show, reinforcing Charity's personal turmoil with the moral chaos of the decade.

The scene from the "Rhythm of Life Church" is like a scene out of "Tommy," complete with a con artist, preacher, Daddy Brubeck played with a delicious wickedness by Tony Lawry of Garden City.

The choreography is stunning, and pays tribute to the attitude and style of Bob Fosse, the show's original Broadway choreographer. The moves are sexy and provocative without being overt. Paired with the striking lighting design, the show deftly captures the strong moods and raw sensuality of the show.

Charity's hard-edged dance hall friends Nickie and Helene, played by Heather Bell of Royal Oak and Tami Ann Mough of Walled Lake, were strong vocal assets to the show, and wowed the house with the duet, "Baby, Dream Your Dream." Julie Newcombe of Farmington Hills, as Ursula, epitomizes the blonde bombshell with her stunning presence.

Jim Meade plays all three of Charity's romantic interests, skillfully changing from a silent thug, to a Italian-accented movie star, to a boy-next-door type. Meade excelled in all three roles with his captivating charm and the audience's applause. Having one actor play all three of Charity's love interests is an interesting twist, since all are alike in that they leave her high and dry without the love she so desperately craves. Though different personalities, they all trample her heart, and leave her alone to bravely start her search once more.

of Evelyn Orbach, the entire cast delivers flawless, deeply affecting performances.

Manfredi and Grossman are especially well-cast as head-on antagonists.

Christopher Carothers' set and Edith Leavis Bookstein's costumes add to the production's polish. Rita Girardi's fine lighting needs only more impact at the end of each act.

Overall, "Taking Sides" is one of the most thought-provoking plays in contemporary theatre. JET's outstanding production should not be missed.

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Hilberry finds a 'level of importance' in Wilde's classic of betrayal

"A Woman of No Importance" by Oscar Wilde continues at the Hilberry Theatre, through April 23. The Hilberry is on the Wayne State University campus on Cass

between Hancock and Forest. Call (313) 577-2972 for show times and ticket information.

BY SUE SUCHTYA SPECIAL WRITER

Oscar Wilde's play, "A Woman of No Importance" is the story of an Englishwoman in the late 1800s who, betrayed by her lover and rejected by society, raises an

out-of-wedlock child on her own.

As the story begins, the child, now a young man, has been offered an important position by an influential man. Neither know that they are father and son.

■ The Stratford Festival's award-winning director Antoni Cimolino has assembled a talented cast. With ease and skill, the cast breathes life into the self-centered and self-sacrificing characters

of Evelyn Orbach, the entire cast delivers flawless, deeply affecting performances.

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MOVIES

'The Borrowers' is a tiny family film treasure



JOHN MONAGHAN

Somehow "The Borrowers" passed me by. The series of books, about a family of little people who reside under the floor boards, has been a children's favorite since first published in 1952. If they're half as good as the new movie version, I can understand the reason for all the fuss. Exciting, touching, and imaginatively designed, this British import is one of those rare movies that will please adults as much as the children who drag them to it.

Peagreen and Arietty (Tom Felton and Flora Newbigen) are the mouse-sized brother and sister who live in a cozy English house. The opening shows them in the act of "borrowing" from the larger humans they cohabit with. When Arietty gets locked in the freezer during a search for ice cream, it's up to her agile father Pod (Jim Broadbent) to get her out of it.

Mother Homily (Celia Imrie), meanwhile, minds the home front, fashioning household necessities out of things like thimbles, fabric scraps and board game pieces.

"The Borrowers" is a delight on several levels. As a children's movie it delivers a strong message about family and community. It also offers a hissing villain played by John Goodman, a scheming lawyer who steals the deed to the Borrowers' home.

From here the movie becomes an elaborate chase through English city streets and into

some unusual locations as the antiquated milk bottling plant. This is where the movie gets interesting for adults, since the product placement is decidedly modern but the settings all recall the 1950s.

Director Peter Hewitt and his talented production crew have staged a number of marvelous set pieces that will have the hearts of all ages racing. At one point Goodman's lawyer takes a hammer to the walls as the children skitter along the beams, plaster exploding just centimeters behind them.

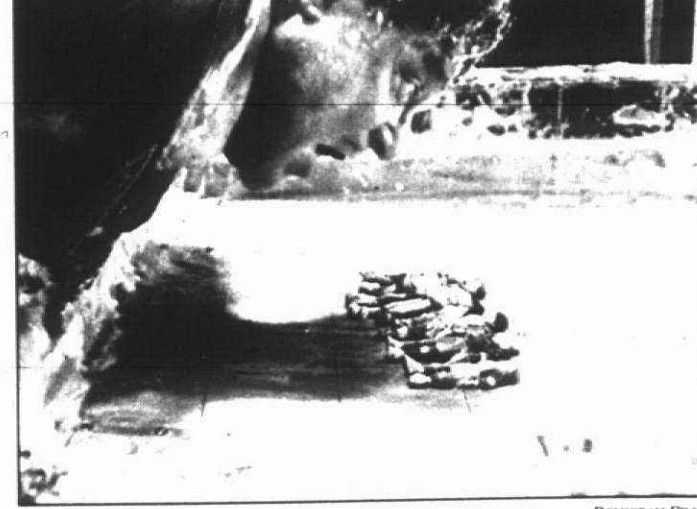
For his part, John Goodman (seen in no less than four movies this month) has the proper larger-than-life quality to take on this new breed of Lilliputian. He even gets strung up Gulliver-style.

His slapstick scenes are offset by clever bits with a police offi-

cer (Hugh Laurie's Officer Steady) whose attempts to be polite and helpful inadvertently spoil the lawyer's odious plans. In another bit of inspired casting, Mark Williams plays an exterminator who looks like a cross between the Orkin and Good Humor Men. Though commissioned to destroy the meddlers, he has a healthy respect for the legendary creatures he has never seen — until now.

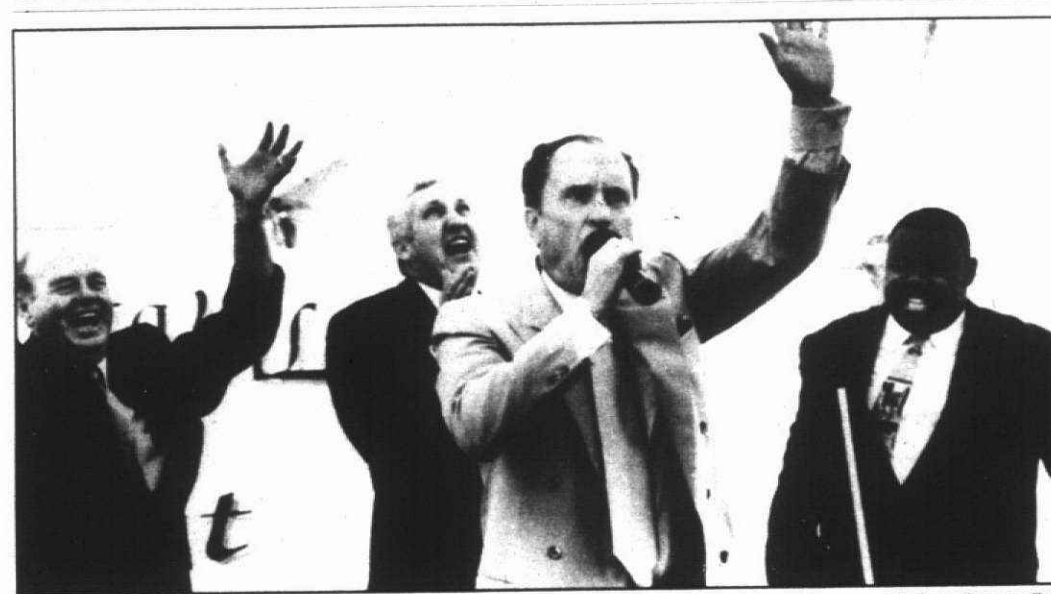
Despite the seamless quality of the special effects, "The Borrowers" has the feel of a tiny treasure. Disney could learn a trick or two from the Brits when it comes to making a movie that charms as much as it dazzles.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.



Family feature: John Goodman as the evil lawyer, Ociuous P. Potter, says his final words to the Clock family in "The Borrowers."

SCREEN SCENE



Drama: Robert Duvall as "The Apostle E.F." in a scene from "The Apostle," written and directed by Duvall.

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (248) 542-0180 for information. (\$6.50; \$4 student/seniors and matinee; \$3 twilight).

Detroit Film Theatre Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 833-2323 for information. (\$5.50; \$4.50 students/seniors).

"Live Flesh" (Spain-1997). The latest from Pedro Almodovar ("Women in the Veil" of a Nervous Breakdown") as a well-drawn but surprisingly ordinary tale of murder, obsession, and unrequited love.

"Ma Vie En Rose" (France/Belgium-1997). Friday-Sunday, Feb. 20-22 (call for showtimes). A seven-year-old boy raises some eyebrows when he informs family and friends that what he wants to be when he grows up is a girl.

"Different for Girls" (Britain-1996). 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23. Rupert Graves plays a 34-year-old delivery messenger whose "punk" lifestyle changes when he meets a sex blonde who recently underwent a sex change operation.

"The Usable Kinky" (USA-1997). 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19. One of last year's most challenging and kinetic film experiences was this look at the pornographic movie industry just before the rise of video. Mark Wahlberg stars, but it's Julianne Moore and Burt Reynolds who copped the Oscar nominations in amazing supporting roles.

"Deconstructing Harry" (USA-1997). 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25. Woody Allen's latest has evoked a love-hate relationship among viewers. Here he plays a surprisingly profane version of his neurotic New Yorker, whose fictional creations merge cleverly with his real life.

"The Usable Kinky" (USA-1997). 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20. A New England family reunion is the setting for this low-budget comedy.

"The Myth of Fingerprints" (USA-1997). 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Feb. 20-22. A New England family reunion is the setting for this low-budget comedy.

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After 20 years, Sun Messengers finally cut an album

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO

STAFF WRITER

During the last 20 years, The Sun Messengers have provided a soundtrack to nightclubs, bars, the Detroit Music Awards, weddings, parties and Detroit Pistons games.

Now the R&B band wants its music to echo throughout the homes of its fans. After two decades in the business, The Sun Messengers have released its debut CD "Late Night Cruise."

"People don't know us as a recording act. We've been primarily known as a live act. Our place in Detroit music history has been established, but we're hoping to lengthen our legacy," said Rick Steiger, the band's leader who plays the baritone and also saxophones.

The Sun Messengers' material has appeared on compilations, two singles, a cassette and a four-song 12-inch EP. The band never put out a full-length recording simply because it didn't have time.

"Actually four of the tracks were recorded in February of 1996. Then there were two factors — after about May we get really busy plus we believe in road-testing the material. We don't just put it together and record it. We have to develop and



Serenading The Palace: The Sun Messengers — from left, Tippi Hayes, William Elijah, Terry Thunder, Russ Miller, Dan Mayer, John "T-Bone" Paxton, Arthur "Speck" Golden and Rick Steiger.

play the material for awhile."

"Late Night Cruise" features a mix of original and cover tunes including the Count Basie-inspired "Splanky," and a reworked version of Teddy Pendergrass' "I Can't Leave Your Love Alone." The eight-piece band honors Motown with "Imaginary Heaven," a medley of "The Temptations' "Just My Imagination," written by Southfield resident Barrett Strong and his partner Norman Whitfield, and "Heaven" by the group Solo. The title track, penned by keyboardist

Arthur "Speck" Golden and Valerie McCullers, infuses funk and jazz.

The Sun Messengers is one of the few bands in the area who isn't struggling to get its music heard. From high atop The Palace of Auburn Hills, The Sun Messengers serenade Pistons fans with original and cover songs.

"Playing in front of 20,000 people a night adds to the name recognition. It really helps. It's the final piece in a puzzle," Steiger said.

"It's part of a great thing. This is the prime time for basketball but a slow time for the band business."

As a tribute to the 1996-97 Detroit Pistons, band members William Elijah, trumpeter/vocalist, wrote "Who's Got Da Skills?" a bonus track on the 14-song CD, available at The Palace Locker Room store at the arena.

"William Elijah knocked it right out. He said, 'OK, you do this. You do that' and boom, he wrote the words right at the game. Now that they're (The Pistons) playing better again it'll give us more inspiration to write songs. There's been a lot of frustration," Steiger said.

This is the third season that The Sun Messengers has served as "the official band of the Detroit Pistons." The Harper Woods-based band was hired after Palace Sports and Entertainment executives saw The Sun Messengers' performances.

"Over the years we had seen them playing at various spots in the metropolitan Detroit area and always thought that they displayed a fun style and atmosphere. (But it's) not only that. They're a quality group of musicians. They were just what we were looking for," said Peter Skoric, vice president of broadcast-

ing and multi-media for Palace Sports and Entertainment.

The organization wasn't looking for a "house band" but messengers. Having the band play at Pistons and selected Detroit Vipers home games, hearkens back to the days when stadiums and arenas provided live music during sporting events.

"It's a live sporting event, a lot of the live entertainment has been extracted from the game. Everybody used to have an organ player, now it's all canned music. There's nothing wrong with canned music but after you play 40-50 games in a season and your fans are only identifying with the same 15 songs all year, then that's when you add a live element like The Sun Messengers and make it more a diverse entertainment event," Skoric explained.

The eight-member group — which also includes Terry Thunder (drums and vocals), Tippi Hayes (bass), Russ Miller (sax), John "T-Bone" Paxton (trombone and vocals) and Dan Mayer (guitar) — plays throughout the game.

"We play a half hour before the game, and then we play a lead-in to time-outs, and then we play in and out of time outs and some-

times through the whole time-outs, and then one song at the end of the game," he said.

For Steiger it's a dream come true. "I'm a big basketball fan. I've seen a lot of good basketball."

Although it has taken 20 years for The Sun Messengers to put out its first CD, it's going to take a lot less than that for the next CD to come out. A follow-up will be in stores this year as a way of celebrating The Sun Messengers' 20th anniversary.

"We took the month of January off from rehearsing. We're back into rehearsals and now we're sort of deciding and choosing the songs. You can imagine a band that's been around as long as us, we have quite a few songs," he said.

"I'm dead set on creating a presence for the band as a recording act. Even if it's just locally."

The Sun Messengers performs at home Detroit Pistons games at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Tickets are \$15-\$25. For more information, call (248) 377-0100 or visit <http://www.palacetent.com> or <http://www.rust.net/~steiger/sunmess.htm>.

American Mars aim is to make the world go away



CHRISTINA FUOCO

STAFF WRITER

The dingy atmosphere of rock clubs can be a distraction to fans going to see fledgling bands. Damp carpeting sucks in shoes, mirrors advertise beer company logos and the day's headlines brightly run across ticker-tape screens.

At its shows, the goal of the Dearborn-based ethereal pop band American Mars is to make it all go away.

"We want to make all of those

kinds of things disappear when people come to see us," said singer/guitarist Thomas Trimble, formerly of the minimalist duo Breach with Missy Gibson.

To accomplish that, American Mars surrounds its audience with its landscape of cinematic tales, Bauhaus-like dark guitars and Trimble's lush vocals.

"We're a little bit more visual than a typical rock band. We're not super loud. We're not a 'big scissor-kick rock group.' We're like (the British trip-hop act) Portishead. Their songs sound like soundtrack stuff. We want our music to play like a soundtrack," Trimble said.

American Mars released its "soundtrack," its debut album "American Mars," in October 1997. Recorded at the Tempermill in Ferndale with Dave Feeny on Feb. 14, 1997, the CD was not an easy task.

"We did it by ourselves. There was some excitement balanced with a healthy amount of dread. We had never done it before. It really was a learning experience," Trimble said.

The band — which included Trimble, bassist/vocalist/guitarist Karla K. Richardson, guitarist Brad Richards and drummer Dave Lantz at the time — told Feeny how much money it could spend and took it from there. Although American Mars

had to work within financial constraints, the band "did everything the way we wanted to do it."

Trimble's lyrics are miniature movies in their own right. The musically haunting "Hourglass" describes the anxiety prior to the end of a relationship. "You ask your lover to tell you that you're through/You wait around for something you can lose."

"Crush," a raucous duet between Trimble and Richardson, shares the excitement of infatuation. "Is she illusion? — or sheer perfection/ light of day — or dark confession/ the honey sweeter — the stinger never."

A late-starting musician, Trim-

ble has only written songs since 1987 when he was in his late teens.

"I tried to teach myself the guitar three or four times, but I just gave up. It seemed like a pretty cool stance to take — 'rock guy,'" said Trimble who has since learned to play the instrument.

In some circles the description "pop music" is considered an insult. But American Mars — which now includes guitarist Gary Watts, formerly of Scott Fab and Crossed Wire, drummer Lantz and Trimble — considers it a compliment.

"It's pop with a twist. Pop's a lot more interesting than rock," Trimble said.

Lantz added, "It's a lot more inventive lately."

Trimble said "at the end of the day" there's no need to worry about labels.

"I don't think we behold to any idea like indie authenticity. We're not concerned about people questioning our credibility."

The band will soon embark on its second tour of the Midwest and the south this spring, and its first visit to Europe in the fall. Watts, who joined American

Mars last fall, explained that the highlights of the first tour for him were when the band was able to connect with the audience.

"When you can overcome complete strangers and make them forget about everything else in the room (that's satisfying). I love that connection."

American Mars plays following Jim Carroll's spoken-word performance at 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance for the 18 and older show. For more information, call (313) 833-POOL or (248) 645-6666. "American Mars" is available in independent record and Harmony House stores, through the band's website — <http://www.americanmars.com>.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco write her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or via e-mail at cfuoco@aol.com, or leave a message at (734) 953-2045, ext. 2130.

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ANN DELISI

STAFF WRITER

Speed is funny. Take something totally serious in real time and speed it up — suddenly you have Alvin and the Chipmunks. Take Shakespeare (please!). Brevity is supposed to be the soul of wit, so tonight on *Backstage Pass* on Detroit Public Television, we're going to bring you a bunch of plays by the Bard himself.

How to fit an entire Shakespeare play into a half hour? Enter "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" by the Reduced Shakespeare Company. The show's a fund-raiser for the Hilberly Theatre, so I called Wayne State's Blair Anderson for the scoop. "They did this play

last year, and I completely adored it. They do everything: the second act is 'Hamlet,' first in double time, then in triple time, and then they do it backwards." Does Shakespeare lend itself to comedy? All three actors play various roles. Classically you had men playing women's roles, and in camp you have the same thing...

Blair made special note of the actors involved. "There's something special that all three of these great students — Karl Kippola, David Engelman and Bret Tuomi — know the classics very well. So the material speaks to theatergoers but is also funny for neophytes. They play it on the level of the department. And they did this in their free time for the love of it, for the joy of theater if you will."

Next we take a look at a six-week happening in Ann Arbor that explores surrealism, the Exquisite Corpse. I asked *Backstage Pass* producer Katherine Weider to explain. "The exquisite corpse was a name invented by the surrealists around the turn of the century. They played it in cafes and parlors, and it can be a literary game, of a visual game."

"Visually what you do is get a piece of paper. One person does the head and you cover most of it up, leaving a little bit showing at the bottom so there's some kind of connection. The next person does the torso, and you cover it up in the same way. The last person does the legs, then you uncover it all and see what you've got. And these terms are loose, so you wind up with odd things — a banana for a head, a

rooster's body, webbed feet, whatever. The media can also vary, so you have part collage, part drawing and so on."

So what can people expect in Ann Arbor? "Sharon Curry organized 60 or 70 artists to participate in this exquisite corpse exhibition. They either had to find collaborators or be assigned them, and they had about six months to get together to do these games on a large scale. The exhibit at the Ann Arbor Art Center is the result of these games, and it is really the heart of the festival."

Also on the big show, singer-songwriter Edwin McCain. That's all on *Backstage Pass* tonight on Detroit Public Television at midnight, repeated Friday at 7:30 p.m.

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Bargain Matinee Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Show Daily
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)
SPICE WORLD (PG)
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
TITANIC (PG-13)
DEEP RISING (R)
HARD RAIN (R)
LA CONFIDENTIAL (R)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Rochester Hills
200 Barclay Circle
853-2260
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)
SPICE WORLD (PG)
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
TITANIC (PG-13)
AMISTAD (R)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-496
248-353-STAR
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)
SPICE WORLD (PG)
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
TITANIC (PG-13)
AMISTAD (R)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Westland 1.8
6000 Wayne Rd.
313-425-7700
Bargain Matinee Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Show Daily
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)
SPICE WORLD (PG)
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
TITANIC (PG-13)
AMISTAD (R)
CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Winchster
1136 S. Rochester Rd., Winchster
248-456-1160
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG-13)
SPICE WORLD (PG)
GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
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DINING

Zagat Survey serves up diners' views of best restaurants

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Tired of a critic downgrading a restaurant you like? Or conversely, heaping praise on one you dislike? Would the best rating come from surveying "real diners," folks like you, who love to eat out?

In the late 1970s, that's what Nina and Tim Zagat (rhymes with the cat) and a group of their New York City friends thought. By 1979, the Zagats created a new standard for the restaurant and travel guide business with introduction of their first Zagat Restaurant Survey.

The first survey polled 100 friends, colleagues and business clients. It was a photocopied list of 75 New York City restaurants with brief comments about each, on a single legal-size sheet of paper.

Between 1979 and 1983, the first formal publishing year for the Zagat Survey, the surveyor base mounted to 600, rating 300 New York restaurants. Their food passion and restaurant critics hobby was costing the Zagats every spare moment of time and nearly \$12,000 annually. It was time for now 55-year-old Nina

and her 57-year-old husband Tim, both Yale Law School graduates, to give up law practices and become publishing entrepreneurs!

TIME magazine praised the Zagat Survey as "gastronomical democracy in action." And it is just that.

Today, a literal army of foodies, who volunteer to review restaurants in 40 cities, have created the restaurant guides known as Zagat Surveys. The 1998 edition billed as "America's Top Restaurants" \$12.95 can be found in all major area bookstores and at Williams-Sonoma locations in Troy, Ann Arbor, Livonia and Novi.

Under the chapter titled Detroit, 23 restaurants were rated by 1,200 volunteer surveyors. Not all are Detroit. Both the Rowe Inn and Tapawingo in Ellsworth are deservedly included. Besting the area top 10 list are The Lark and The Golden Mushroom.

Zagat surveyors rate each restaurant on food, decor and service using a 0-30 scale. Scores of 20-25 are considered very good to excellent with 26-30 viewed as extraordinary to per-

fection. Cost reflects the estimated price of one dinner with one drink and tip. Lunch at the same eatery is usually 25 percent less. Cost ratings are Inexpensive, \$15 and under; Moderate \$16 to \$30; Expensive \$31 to \$50; and Very Expensive \$51 or more.

Surveyors comments are summarized by a paid local editor in each of the 40 cities. Literal comments are shown in quotation marks. Symbols indicate whether responses were mixed or uniform.

Zagat Surveys do not indicate whether alcohol, beer and/or wine are served. Gail Zarr, Zagat's managing editor said, "We believe most of the restaurants do have a license."

When I explained that's not the case for smaller, well-run, highly recommendable, usually ethnic restaurants in the metro-Detroit area, she responded, "We should probably look into including this."

A stand alone salute to fine dining is Zagat Survey 1997 Update Michigan Restaurants, Focusing on Detroit and Environs. This \$9.95 pocket-size

book gives a more complete look at Michigan. While it sports last year, it is current, except for restaurants that opened in 1997. A Michigan Update is not on the drawing board until late 1998 or early 1999, so the 1997 edition is still the best for a broad overview.

But, that's where the Observer & Eccentric Entertainment section comes in. Each Thursday, Dining brings you news of what's new in the restaurant scene. If you need to see back Dining coverage and you have Internet access, contact the newspapers at www.oeonline.com for a cap-sulized review.

Zagat invites you to be a reviewer in their city Restaurant Surveys or in their nationwide Hotel Survey. To get contacted for the next Survey, send a business-size self-addressed stamped envelope to ZAGAT SURVEY, 4 Columbus Circle, New York, NY 10019 indicating the Survey in which you would like to participate, e.g. Detroit or Hotel. Each participant surveyor will receive a free copy of the resulting Survey when it's published.

ZAGAT SURVEY
1998
AMERICA'S TOP
RESTAURANTS

Dining guide: Zagat Survey of America's Top Restaurants includes 23 "tops" in Michigan.

WHAT'S COOKING

To share news about "What's Cooking" at your restaurant, send or fax information to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or fax (734) 591-7279.

We're looking for information about places to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Send us your entertainment and menu information as soon as possible.

MAC & RAY'S

Michigan Culinary Food & Wine Extravaganza 6:30-10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24. To raise money for the Michigan Culinary Team and Scholarship Fund, 24 of the area's top chefs and restaurants present magnificent wine and food pairings under the theme "Celebrating Mardi Gras." Live entertainment provided by Skyline and the Back Street Horns band. General admission tickets \$75 per person or Gold Salon \$125 per person available by phoning Mac & Ray's (810) 463-9660 ext 427. The restaurant is at 30675 North River Rd, Harrison Township (less than three miles east of I-94, next to Selfridge Air National Guard Base).

MARVIN'S BISTRO

Chefs Remy Berdy and Mark Benenati are offering two Fat Tuesday Specials for \$8.95 each on Tuesday, Feb. 24 - Homemade Pierogi stuffed with potato, spinach and chicken topped off with a golden boulet sauce, or Homemade traditional cheese pierogi accompanied with sauteed cabbage and onions topped off with a sour cream dill sauce. Entrees include soup or salad, fresh vegetable medley.

Friday Lenten Specials - Homemade Manhattan Chowder or New England Chowder, two or more seafood specials Fridays during Lent such as marinated salmon, Maryland Crab Cakes, Lemon Sole Rebecca, Broiled Whitefish, Grilled Tuna with

Citrus Sauce served with soup or salad, potato and vegetable medley. Cost will range from \$10.95 to \$13.95 for Lenten seafood specials.

Marvin's Bistro is at 15800 Middlebelt, Livonia, call (734) 522-5600 for information/reservations. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, 4-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14. Bar open until 2 a.m. each evening. Pianists Jimmy Knight and Carl Larson perform 7:30 p.m. to midnight Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Look for feature story about Marvin's Bistro on next week's Dining page in Entertainment. **STELLINE** Jimmy Schmidt closed his Stelline restaurant in the Somerset Collection on Jan. 15. His newest venture, Smitty's Grill in downtown Rochester, has been very successful since its opening in December. He believes the Rochester venue appeals to the same dining audience as did a Troy location.

Matt Prentice's Unique Restaurant Corporation will renovate the Stelline location to Portabella, a casual Italian restaurant. The planned opening is May. "The day it opens, we'll close Sebastian's," Prentice said.

But that's not all prentice has on his plate! Flying Fish Tavern will open at the end of February in the former location of Memphis Smoke at Maple and Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

"The menu will be similar to Tavern on 13 in Birmingham, but exploiting the seafood concept a bit more," prentice noted.

Duet, another Unique Restaurant Corporation restaurant, to be located in the building next to Orchestra Hall in Detroit, has been on the drawing board for some months. Planned opening is mid-April.

CHARLEY'S CRAB

Kenwood Winemaker's Dinner, 6 p.m. Monday, March 2. Cost \$75 per person, includes all taxes and gratuities. Try six of Sonoma County's Kenwood Vineyards wines at a six-course dinner. Does red wine go with fish? Try Kenwood Jack London Zinfandel with New Orleans Pecan Catfish with creole meuniere sauce as the first of two entrees and decide! Reservations required. The restaurant is at 5498 Crooks Road, Troy, call (248) 879-2060

NEW NAME

Saint Louis Bread with locations in West Bloomfield and Lathrup Village is unveiling its new name with a special ceremony and donation to local charities.

The neighborhood bakery-cafes will be known as Panera Bread. The new exterior signage was unveiled Tuesday, Feb. 17 by West Bloomfield Township Supervisor Jedd Hood and Lathrup Village Mayor Frank Brock. Panera Bread is seeking suggestions from its customers for local charities which deserve recognition.

In return, Panera Bread will donate 1,000 loaves of fresh-baked bread to these groups over the next month. Panera Brad also will donate 25 cents from the sale of each loaf of bread at each of the three Detroit-area bakery-cafes through Feb. 21 to Forgotten Harvest.

The West Bloomfield Panera Bread bakery cafe is at 6399 Orchard Lake Road, (248) 855-9209.

The Lathrup Village Panera Bread bakery cafe is at 27651 Southfield Road, (248) 443-0282.

The Novi location, 25875 Novi Road, (248) 374-1701 opened Nov. 19 as Panera Bread.

WINTERFEST BEER TASTING

Schoolcraft College Gourmet Club and Merchant's Fine Wine

- Dearborn, Royal Oak and Milford is hosting the Third Annual Winterfest Beer Tasting, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, February 25 at Schoolcraft College in the Waterman Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia (one block west of I-275 between Six and Seven Mile Roads). The cost is \$30 per person, call (734) 462-4422 to order tickets.

The event will feature fine cuisine, 80 to 100 beers to select from, tastings limited to 50, door prizes and complimentary tasting glass.

The food menu features assorted charcuterie and seafood terrine platters, mixed grilled sausages, beer breads, relishes, and cheeses and crackers.

A Texas food station will featured beer chili, corn spoon bread, and rattlesnake pizza; A wide variety of quesadillas, dips and a salsa bar will be at the Mexican Station; and a dessert bar will offer black and tan cheesecake with cherry beer sauce.

Tickets can be purchased at the Student Activities Office, lower Waterman Center, or Merchant's Fine Wine locations. You must be 21 years old, or older to attend this event.

UNIQUE RESTAURANT CORPORATION

The Southwest Feast, Feb. 19 at Relish, 34555 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 489-8852; Feb. 21 at Sebastian's Grill, inside Somerset Collection South, Troy, (248) 649-6625.

Each feast begins at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$34.95 per person, not including tax or gratuity. A wine package will be offered at an additional cost. Call the restaurant of your choice for reservations/information.

Menu features Soup Course - Confit of Duck & Posole Soup, Ancho Chiles & Tortilla Confit; First Course - Lobster & Crab

meat Chile Relleno, Goat Cheese & Shellfish Ranchero Sauce; Principle Course - Lime-Marinated Black Island Swordfish, Tomatillo Beurre Blanc & Spanish Rice Pilaf; Grand Finale - Espresso Flan and Kahlua Caramel Sauce.

German Feast at Morels, 30100 Telegraph, Bingham Farms 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26 features guest speaker Johann Selbach. Cost \$75 per person, including tax and gratuity. Call (248) 642-1094 for reservations. The event will feature seven wines and a special menu featuring Maine Lobster & Gulf Shrimp Tostada, Apricot Glazed Grouper, Roasted Certified USDA Prime Strip Sirloin, and warm "Apple Jack" Tart.

FIVE LAKES GRILL

Wine Tasting Event presented with Merchant's Fine Wines, 5-8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, 424 N. Main St. downtown Milford. Cost \$30 per person, proceeds to benefit Milford Rotary Club, call (248) 684-7455 or (248) 685-7191.

Menu includes imported cheeses & fruits, Smoked Salmon with red onion relish, Sauteed escargot with garlic, chateaufort and filberts, Grilled Portabella Mushrooms with roasted peppers, Redskin potato with spicy pork, Potato Gnocchi with spinach, bacon & Parmesan cheese, Tandoori Chicken Skewers, Fetta with grilled vegetables, various pates & terrines, Mediterranean Cous Cous Salad, Golden Mushroom.

Russian/Vodka Feast Tuesday, Feb. 24, cost \$85 per person. Menu features Smoked Roasted Sturgeon with Dark Rye, Sour Cream and Caviar Sauce, Roast Saddle of Lamb with Pomegranate Sauce, Cauliflower Gratin and Potato Pancakes. Golden Mushroom is at 18100 W.

10 Mile Road, at Southfield, call (248) 559-4230 for reservations and information.

THE LARK

Stone Crab Dinner 7 p.m. Monday or Tuesday, Feb. 23 or 24, Cost \$80 per person not including other beverages, tax or gratuity. Menu features fried oysters with Remoulade Sauce, Grilled Shrimp with Hickory Smoked Bacon & Lemon Barbecue Sauce, Buttermilk Biscuits with honey butter, Mixed Fresh Greens with Hearts of Palm, Almonds & Mustard-Hazelnut Vinaigrette, Champagne & Passionfruit Granite, Stone Crab Claws with mustard sauce or drawn butter, Lyonnaise Potatoes, Asparagus, Key Lime Tart with Pecan Crust & Coconut Meringue, Coffee, Bonbons. The restaurant is at 6430 Farmington Road (north of Maple Road) West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-4466 for reservations/information.

EAST SIDE MARIO'S

"Two Hearts East as One" offer continues through the end of February. Four-course meal for two features vegetable soup or garden salad, garlic bread, Rotisserie Chicken Cacciatore served family style with Tiramisu for dessert. The cost \$21.99 per couple.

Serving lunch and dinner seven days a week, East Side Mario's metro Detroit locations are at 29267 Southfield Road, (between 12 and 13 Mile Roads) in the Southfield Commons Shopping Center, Southfield, (248) 569-9454; 31630 Plymouth Road (just west of Merriman) in Livonia (734) 513-8803.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday-Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday.

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Includes choice of soup or salad (except Caesar Salad) and choice of Coffee, Tea or Soft Drink!
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